

# PLAIN TALKS

AUGUST, 1974





# A WORD TO THE WISE

This is the time of year that electric utility companies are besieged with high bill complaints. Our Company is no exception and would not be, regardless of how much faith our customers have in us.

It is a simple and unavoidable fact that, in light of reduced natural gas supplies, we must in many cases resort to burning fuel oil in our generating process. And, as has been demonstrated time and time again, the price of fuel oil is not cheap. Therefore the Company must pass along to the customer the increased fuel cost, as legally provided for in our fuel adjustment clause. This clause has been explained previously in Plain Talks and Company advertising, emphasizing the fact that we are making no profit from the additional monthly fuel billing.

As the hottest part of the year is upon us, it is time to re-emphasize that each of us, as customers, should expect higher electric bills. It is our own fault that we were not more prudent in past years with regard to our usage of fuels to heat and cool our homes and run our cars and boats. It is too late to gripe and complain about the past; it's dead and buried, or burned up, as the case may be.

It's time to look to the present and especially the future in regard to our energy situation. Wise men learn from their mistakes, and the future will bear this saying out.

Unless our country runs out of wise men - which I doubt.

*M.S.*



# PLAIN TALKS

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A&M Study p. 2

## Inside P.T.

*2-Toledo Bend Study*

*4-GSU News*

*14-Open Mail*

*19-Retirements*

*20-Service Awards*

*22-People On The Move*

*25-Coffee Cup*

## About The Cover...

*Tom Crowe, project engineer for Blue Hills Station, handles with care an authentic TEXAS JACKALOPE. This little "critter" can generally be found hanging around the office of Dr. Harold Irby in Jasper, Texas. Dr. Irby is the field leader for an ecology study currently being done in Newton County as part of the requirements for obtaining a construction permit for Blue Hills. Actually this little fellow is the result of a taxidermist's imagination. Earl Schwettmann of Fredericksburg, Texas created this animal, a jack rabbit with sewn-on antelope horns, and presented it to Dr. Irby. It now hangs (mounted) in Dr. Irby's office.*



Efforts by a team of scientists working for the Company on environmental studies, required by the government before construction can be started on the multi-million dollar Blue Hills Station nuclear electric power plant in North Newton County, are being hampered by boaters on Toledo Bend Lake who have damaged fish nets used by the aquatic researchers.

According to Benny Gallaway, ichthyologist (a specialist in the study of fish) from Texas A&M, some surface set nets seem to have been accidentally, or in a few cases, deliberately destroyed, perhaps by fishermen who incorrectly assumed the nets are being used for commercial fishing purposes.

"Our nets are set from offshore buoys near the mouth of Indian Creek Bay and at two other locations down reservoir towards the dam. Although the nets are fished at night, they are discernible by a string of white buoys spaced 25 feet apart. Boaters must go around the end floats, as attempted passage between floats will result in fouled propellers, possible motor damage and a destroyed net.

"We apologize for the inconvenience we may have caused some boaters and, in an attempt to make the nets more easily seen at night, we are painting our

## Texas A&M Scientists Study Toledo Bend

marker buoys with a fluorescent yellow paint. Our nets catch mostly rough fish and small numbers of game fish. The removal of netted fish from the reservoir will not be harmful to fishing. The information gained from the limited netting will help biologists to better understand the reservoir.

"The contribution of information from our netting activities will hopefully aid biologists in developing a sound management program for the reservoir which will maintain good fishing over a long period of time."

Before the Company can begin construction of Blue Hills Station, to be located about eight miles southwest of the lake, it must submit exhaustive reports to the Atomic Energy Commission in Washington, D. C. The aquatic study is part of the environmental report, which also includes socioeconomic, archeological, weather, biological, terrestrial, cultural and historical studies.

Gallaway expressed the hope that fishermen will understand that the netting operations are part of the required research and are designed to benefit fishing in the area. "Our nets are marked by buoys plainly marked with 'Texas A&M'," he added.



A Texas A&M scientist dissects a bird, enabling him to determine its eating habits by opening the species' stomach.



**BELIEVE IT OR NOT**—This cuddly bundle of fur and horns is real. At least he's real to the extent that Bernard Weynand, a mammalogist from Texas A&M, actually explained that this creature was assembled from leftovers. Weynand said that antelope horns were mounted on this particular jackrabbit following its dissection and now has it hanging from his office wall. It makes for quite a conversation piece!



This Texas A&M scientist surveys damage inadvertently caused to one of the nets used at Toledo Band. The nets trap various species of fish for study and evaluation.





# GSU NEWS

## A Testimony to the "Good Old Days"

*This is a reprint from the Port Arthur News.*

For more than half a century the porch light at the J. L. Sweeney home on 7th St. has brightened the way for relatives and friends — and with the same lightbulb.

Gulf States Utilities home service advisor Marianne Nelson verified that the bulb on the Sweeney porch is a Mazda lightbulb, developed and manufactured by General Electric in about 1913.

The Sweeney house was built in 1923, and according to Mrs. Mary Sweeney, the bulb was put in place then. "I was just curious to see how long the bulb would burn," she said.

The Sweeney's discovered their antique bulb when their daughter-in-law, Mrs. Joe Sweeney, removed it for a painting job and discovered the odd shape.

Unlike a conventional lightbulb, the Mazda was manufactured by pumping air

out of the glass bulb and pumping gases in. The hole at the large end of the bulb was then melted to seal the bulb, giving the finished bulb an odd-looking tip about 1/16th inch long.

According to Mrs. Nelson, the bulb gives off much less light than modern bulbs, which could account for its longevity. There is also no wattage distinguishable on the bulb, but this is not unusual, said Mrs. Nelson, for lightbulbs manufactured at that time.

The Sweeney's expressed little surprise over the lightbulb's age. "I guess it cost about 10 or 15 cents," Mrs. Sweeney said, "but we expected things to last longer then."

Even at 15 cents for the bulb, that averages out to about one cent every three-and-one-half years, a testimony to "the good old days."

## Efficiency Project Helps Louisiana Station

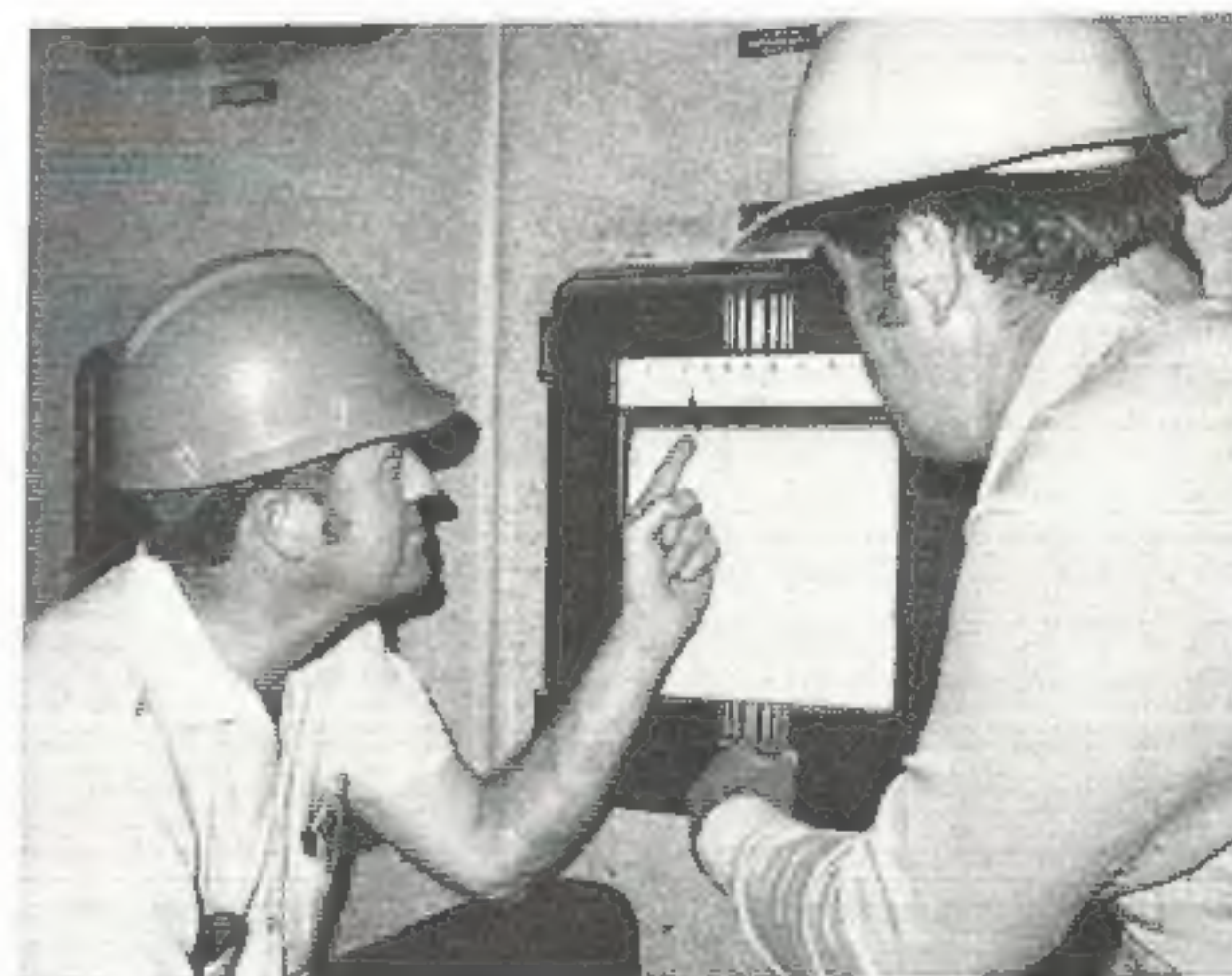
*by Frank Jones*

Who says you can't teach an old dog new tricks? Well, whoever said it has never been out to Louisiana Station in North Baton Rouge.

A project to increase the efficiency of boilers, some of which are as old as 44 years, was undertaken last March and lasted into May. It was spearheaded by Eddie Kopp, station supervisor and John (Maxie) May, test foreman. Their goal was to take a very close look at the old boilers to see if they were operating as efficiently as possible and to come up with some recommendations. In light of the preciousness of fossil fuels these days, it is imperative that the Company's boilers operate with as little wasted fuel as possible.

For six weeks, these men studied the boilers and equipment. They wanted to know if changes in the operation and maintenance procedures would increase the efficiency of the boilers. And they came up with several recommendations upon which have been acted.

During the study, it was found that due to the old age of the boilers at the plant, the instruments used to give indicators of fuel/air mixtures, oxygen content and combustion analysis were no longer accurate. It was recommended that the Company purchase new combustion analyzers for the boilers in order to obtain a more accurate firing condition. Those analyzers have been ordered and will arrive in late 1974.



Johnson points out the change in gas flow as indicated on an ink chart.

(Continued)



In order to understand what results have been achieved through this recent efficiency study, it is mandatory to realize that the heat value, measured in British Thermal Units (BTU's), of refinery natural gas, differs from time to time. Some gas is hotter than other gas, a condition that will necessitate a change in the fuel/air ratio in the boiler to obtain an optimum firing point. Water quality is also very critical, as deposits that build up on the inside walls of the tubes in the boiler tend to create an insulating effect that prohibits the transfer of heat to the water inside the boiler tubes.

The two men who monitor the equipment and provide the increased efficiency in the boilers on a day-to-day basis are the ones pictured here. Wayne Huff, master test technician, maintains the quality of the burn by monitoring the various gauges that tell him what is happening inside the boiler and the head fireman at the 600-pound plant is C. B. Johnson, the man who keeps a constant vigil on the boiler insuring the proper firing condition.

The result? According to Huff and Johnson, only one month in the entire year of 1973 has been more efficient than the months of April and May of this year



Johnson alters the gas flow into one of the boilers at the station.



Wayne Huff (left and C. B. Johnson discuss the optimum burning condition of one of Louisiana Station's older boilers.

in terms of BTU per net KW. If that trend continues, less natural gas will be consumed (sent uselessly up the stack) in 1974 than was the case in 1973. The end result is that the Company will use less fuel than before and will save money, a critical commodity in today's market place.

An interesting observation is that in the newer boilers used in newer plants, the firing condition is automatically controlled, thus providing maximum efficiency. The only way to control it in the older boilers is by knowing the boiler, knowing how it operates and at what point it operates most efficiently—and according to Johnson, "they're all different." That unmistakable, unpurchaseable quality provided only by the people doing the job. The human element. Instinct. The ability to think and reason and to be flexible in constantly changing situations. That is what is improving the efficiency at Louisiana Station's ancient boilers. The people operating the equipment.

The study has had some other beneficial side effects, such as improved employee communication. Different departments are working together towards a common goal. People are taking an active, conscientious part in the project... the wise use... not abuse, of our rapidly dwindling supply of natural resources.

## Baton Rouge Presents School Program

The Baton Rouge Division's Home Service and Marketing Departments recently presented a full morning of programs to about 50 ladies at the Zachary High School Home Economics Department in Zachary, La.

Francine Dumigan, home service advisor, began the program with a felt-board presentation centering around the wise use of energy. She then tied in two small appliances, the blender and the fondue, as two ways of using available energy wisely.

Karen Kelly, another home service advisor, gave a slide talk concerning the

rising costs of food and some hints on how to shop wisely. She then prepared a tuna dish in the electric skillet for the participants to taste.

Dolph McKowen, commercial marketing representative, gave his slide talk that included a brief look at the Company and where we get the energy to put into our customers' homes, a look at the energy crunch, some interesting facts about nuclear power and a brief study of radiation, putting it into perspective for the audience. He also mentioned alternate fuel sources being investigated for use in

future years and answered several questions from the floor regarding high bills and the fuel adjustment clause.

Occasion for the get together was the grand opening preview of the newly refurbished Home Economics Department of the school. The participants toured the new facility under the guidance of Miss Margarie Chaney, home economics teacher and several of her students who were on hand to assist in the serving of refreshments and also displayed some of their hand-crafted items.



Karen Kelly, home service advisor, gave a slide presentation and then prepared a tuna dish for the audience to sample.



Francine Dumigan, home service advisor, gave a felt board presentation to the school.



Dolph McKowen, commercial marketing representative, talked with the audience after the presentation, answering questions concerning electric rates and the fuel clause adjustment.





ANDY ANDERSON



SCUDDY THIBODEAUX



GLENN SANDERS

A Company Trademark

## *Sabine Has A Better Idea*

Three men at Sabine Station in the Port Arthur Division have put their heads together and come up with a new and better idea, now in use at the generating station. New and better ideas by employees have been a "trademark" of our Company throughout its history, and this is no exception.



Andy Anderson points to the four filtering system tanks which hold the water-cleaning elements - 70 elements per tank.

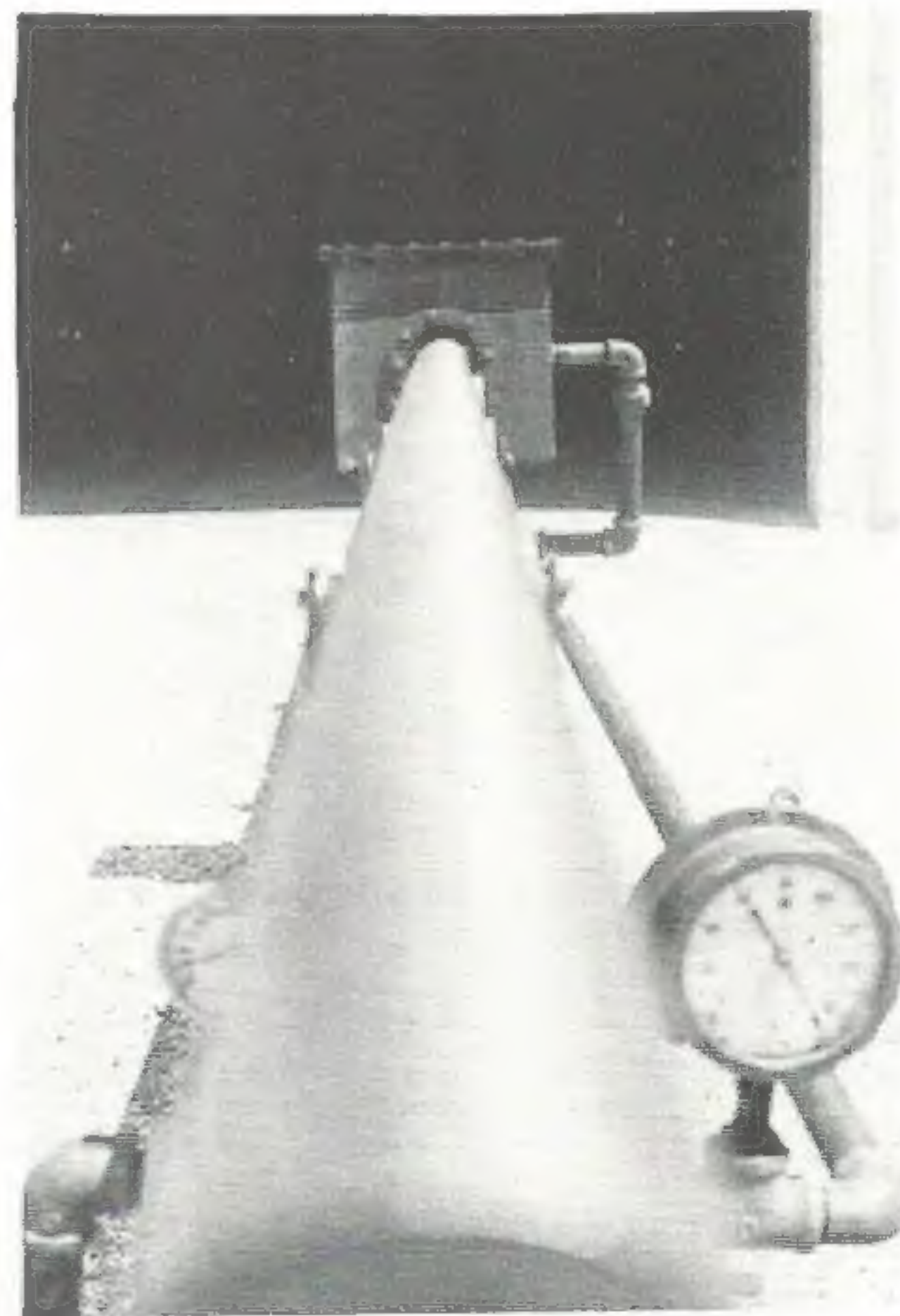
The three Sabine Station men, Andy Anderson - mechanical maintenance foreman, Scuddy Thibodeaux - repairman-1st class and Glenn Sanders - mechanic's helper, have devised a better process for cleaning the filtering elements inside the pre-filter system that is a part of the station's supercritical Unit no. 4. Because this is a supercritical unit operating at exceptionally high pressures, the boiler water must be purer than in lower pressure boilers.

The filtering system, composed of four tanks, contains 70 spiral-wound tubular elements per tank. Each element is coated for the purpose of trapping impurities in the water as it passes through the openings between the spirals. Periodically, the impurities must be cleaned from the elements to assure that they function properly.

In the past, the cleaning process required some 288 man-hours. This process involved the use of a steam lance to clean the inside and outside of each filtering element after they were removed from the four tanks. The new process, requiring only some 108 man-hours, uses a metal box, open on opposite sides, through which each filtering element separately passes. Steam or hot water is injected under pressure into the box, cleaning the impurities from the element openings, as well as cleaning the element's inside at the same time.

This new process, by simple arithmetic, saves some 180 man-hours; obviously quite a savings in time and

money. It has modestly been referred to as "just a modification of the old process," but deserves much more credit. Thanks to Andy, Scuddy and Glenn, much time and money has again been saved; a definite asset to efficiently and economically operating our Company.



As the filtering element passes through the box, steam or hot water is injected into the box, removing the impurities from the inside and outside and clearing the water passages in the element.





# Orange Holds Annual Golf Tourney

by Doris Womack

The Orange District Golf Tournament was held on Sunday, June 30, at D.E.R.A. golf course in Orange. First place winner was Glen McGuire, (right) serviceman, with score after handicap of 60; second place winner was Skeeter Peveto, (center) line foreman, with a

score after handicap of 61; third place was George Crawford, engineering assistant, with a score after handicap of 64.

The good sportsmanship trophy went to Jimmy Block, lineman, for driving the refreshment cart!

## Can the ordinary guy who's worked hard, retired and felt the pinch get more income and a tax break, too? You bet.

### Trade your E Bonds for H Bonds.

If you're like the average guy, you've probably saved a lot of E Bonds. Well, now that retirement puts you in a whole new ball game, maybe it's time to think about H Bonds. Unlike E Bonds, H Bonds pay you interest every 6 months. And it's mailed right to your door. That way, your savings have steady work, and you've got a steady income coming in. A great way to make your money go further at retirement.

**Now there's a new, higher interest rate.** Series H Bonds, with a 10-year maturity, will earn 5% the first

year, 5.8% for the next four years, and 6½% for the last five years. This gives you an average 6% yield over the 10-year period.

**You'll get a tax break, too.** When you apply your accumulated E Bond interest to the purchase of H Bonds, your tax liability on it continues to be deferred until your H Bonds are redeemed, or reach final maturity. (Since there's an optional 10-year extension, that could be 20 years.)

**Steady, dependable income. Twice a year.** And here's a way to get interest checks every month, if you'd like. Just buy an H Bond a

month for six consecutive months. That way, you've got 120 checks in a row guaranteed (and 120 more in the extension).

**Purchase \$500 to \$5,000.** Your banker has purchase applications for H Bonds. At face value of \$500, \$1,000 and \$5,000. There's an annual purchase limitation of \$10,000 (\$20,000 with a co-owner). But there's no limit when you're trading in E Bonds.

**Buy H Bonds with cash, too.** What if you don't own E Bonds? Or you want to keep those you own? Just buy H Bonds with plain ol' cash. They're still a good idea.

Series H Bonds. Maybe they're just the break the ordinary guy needs.



## Take stock in America.

Buy Series H Bonds.

Ad Council A public service of this publication and The Advertising Council.



25 Years Ago

# *Copper Highway Through The Swamp*

*By Jim Turner  
Director of Public Relations*

A quarter of a century has passed since electric power began pulsing through nearly 250 miles of newly built, high voltage copper highways that crossed our system and linked Louisiana Station in Baton Rouge, with Neches Station, in Beaumont. A third power plant, the old Riverside Station in Lake Charles, was also tied to the 138,000 volt backbone transmission line. Riverside is no longer a part of our system.

Building this "backbone" line across wild marshes, broad, deep rivers, meandering bayous and lush rice fields was one of the milestone achievements of the first 50 years of GSU history.

Although the load-growth figures sound small compared to today's, the post-war years were times of unprecedented expansion. Our load grew from 121,000 kilowatts in 1940 to 385,000 in 1950. The three major load centers were at Baton Rouge, Lake Charles and Beaumont, where our three generating stations were located. The Western Division upsurge had not begun.

Some of the men who worked at building this line had survived the island-hopping, swamp warfare of World War II in the Pacific. Other than the element of battle, these men must have found the conditions similar; heat, insects, snakes, mud and more mud. It was practically an amphibious operation for many miles, and some ingenious amphibious tools were used.

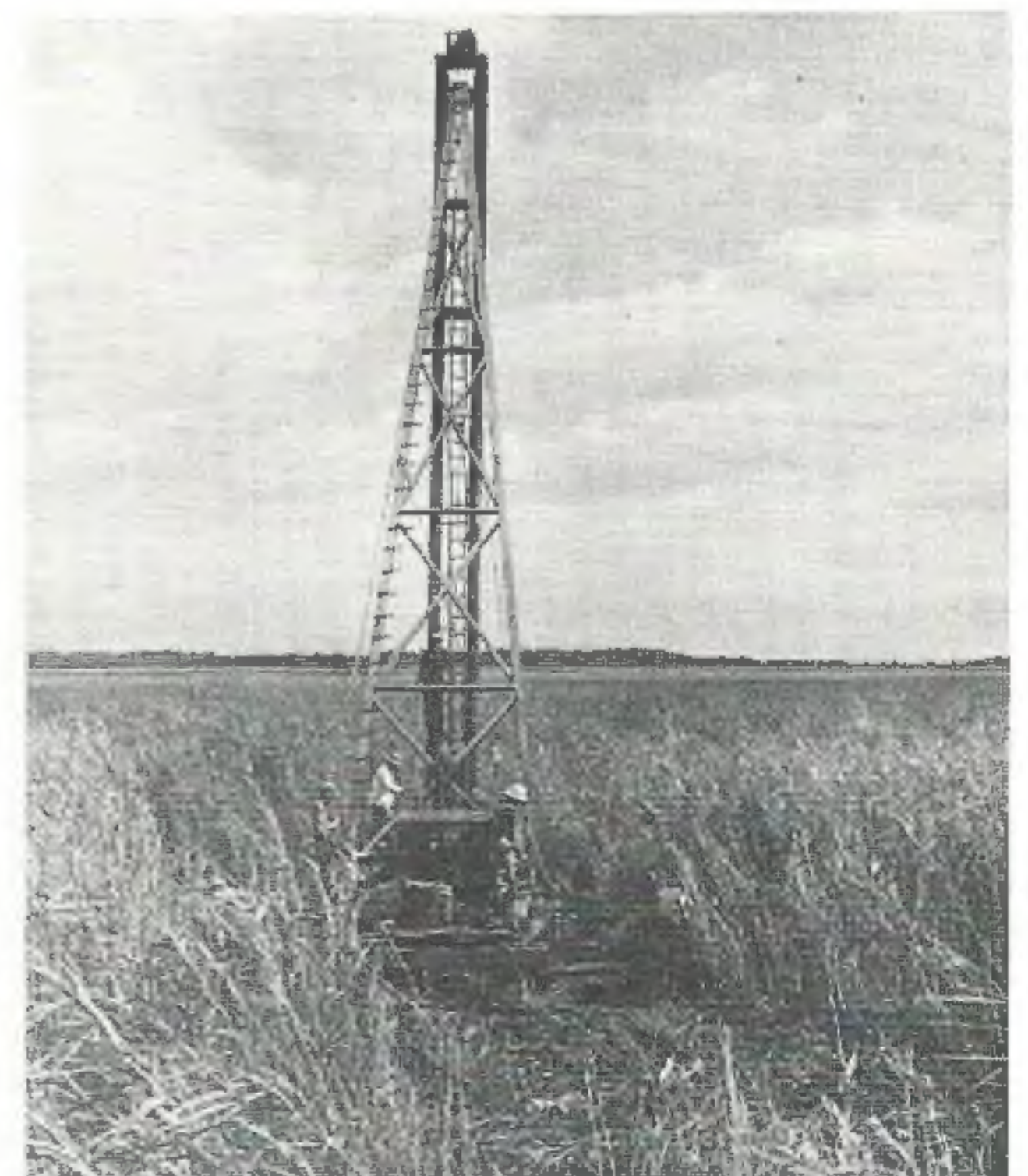
The engineering involved was challenging, too. Most of the rivers, canals and bayous that had to be crossed were traveled by barges and ships, and were subject to extreme variations in depth from season to season. The elevation of crossing towers had to allow for high water and the clearance required by an unloaded vessel, riding high in the water.

Some borings in the Atchafalaya swamp revealed no firm bottom as deep as 100 feet, so special concrete pilings were devised.

Rice farmers protested that the tall H-frame lines spanning their fields would hamper the use of airplanes for planting



A floating workshop, this steel barge, with mounted winch truck, was used to hang insulators and string conductors.



Boggy conditions made for tough, slow going, as this pile driver mounted on skids indicates.

(Continued)



and fertilizing. These matters were handled as diplomatically as possible, and few complaints have resulted over the years.

Transmission pole enemy number one in the swampland of South Louisiana is the woodpecker. After being erected, some poles were ruined before the cross-arms could be added. Finally, the decision was made to wrap each pole in the line between Henderson and the Ramah Levee with 1/4 inch hardware cloth.

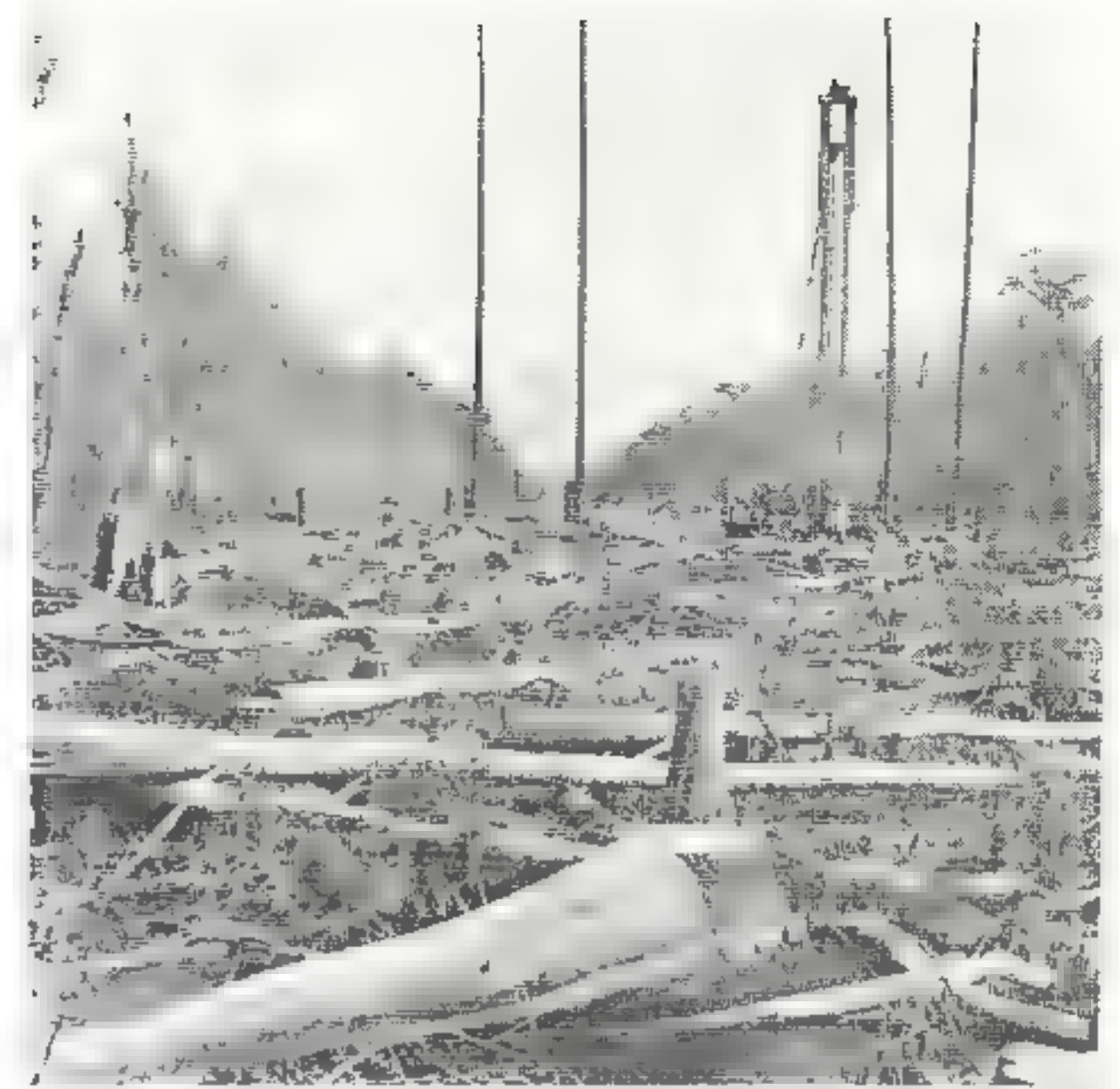
A report written in 1950 revealed that, in addition to all the conventional line construction equipment, there were marsh buggies, boats, barges and pirogues equipped with outboard and inboard motors. On a section where the line passed over an abandoned railroad track, the crews mounted a hole digger on a railroad motor car.

The 240 miles of 138,000 volt line connecting Louisiana and Neches Stations and extending westward to Dayton was completed in the summer of 1949. Another 80 miles from Dayton to Navasota began operating in late 1950.

A lot of productivity, convenience and comfort was made available by this unsung copper highway through the swampland. A lot of hard work and discomfort by a tough, innovative crew of workers made it possible...a quarter of a century ago.

Trees were felled and used as corduroy roads and skids to help move heavy equipment. Later, during flood stages, the trees were floated out and salvaged.

*(Editor's Note: Twenty-five years ago, this line could only be seen by marsh buggy or pirogues — now it can be viewed from the convenience of a modern four lane highway.)*



A handy tool was the "swamp buggy," here shown towing a load of poles across the Sabine River. Tree limbs in foreground are hitch-hikers.



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## Deaths



O. C. WINGARD

O. C. Wingard, Orange commercial sales representative-senior, died April 5.

Wingard, a native of Shiro, Texas, was employed in May, 1937, in Navasota as a groundsman in the T&D Department. He went to Alvin, Texas, in December, 1940, as a T&D Department helper, then to Orange as a T&D helper in January, 1942. Wingard then progressed in Orange through various Sales Department classifications to commercial sales representative-senior in November, 1951.

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Wilford P. Gill, Beaumont T&D (Line) Department, died June 7.

Gill was employed in September, 1970, as a laborer in the Beaumont Line Department. He progressed in January, 1973, to helper-Line Department.

Gill was a native of Dies, Texas.

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# A Game To Play With All Your Heart

*This test may reveal behavior patterns which threaten your health.*

HEART DISEASE is a subject most people choose to ignore or minimize.

The results of their apathy are cast in the obituary columns of our newspapers. More than a million people in the U.S. alone die from heart disease each year. Many more are forced to reduce their activities because of heart problems.

Some 54 percent of the death rate is attributable to heart disease. The percentage is rising — especially among younger people.

If you're one of the many who think heart disease only happens to others, take a moment to play RISK, the game re-

printed below. Although it's only a game, the stakes are high: your life.

RISK enables you to estimate your chances of suffering a heart attack, based on variables such as age, physical condition and habits. Risk factors are rated on a scale, the higher your score, the better your chances of losing the game. You can't do anything about your age and sex, but you can improve most of your other scores.

"Exercise and eating are the two most important things you can control to maintain a sound heart," states Dr. Gordon Richmond, Socal's medical director. "More of the first, less of the second."

The best and simplest exercise is just

plain walking—not strolling, but vigorous, exhilarating walking. Try it with your spouse or a friend — you'll both like it. If you prefer, other activities such as tennis, golf, bicycling and swimming are also fine.

You can also help reduce coronary risk by not smoking, and not eating or drinking too much (especially alcoholic beverages). Avoid emotional stress as much as possible, have regular medical checkups and maintain a good diet. The latter means controlling consumption of cholesterol-rich foods such as eggs, meat, butter, cream and whole milk.

"Repairs to your heart are costly and rarely effective for very long," says Dr. Richmond. "Treat the old pump with considerable respect and it will serve you faithfully."

## RULES:

Study each RISK FACTOR and its row. Find the box applicable to you and circle the large number in it. For example: if you are 37, circle the number in the box labeled 31-40.

After checking out all the rows and the circled numbers. This total—your score—is estimate of your risk.

## If you score:

6-11 - risk well below average  
12-17 - risk below average  
18-24 - risk generally average  
26-31 - risk moderate  
32-40 - risk at a dangerous level  
41-62 - danger urgent. See your doctor now.

## Heredity:

Count parents, grandparents, brothers, and sisters who have had heart attack and/or stroke

## Tobacco smoking

If you inhale deeply and smoke a cigarette way down, add one to your classification. Do NOT subtract because you think you do not inhale or smoke only a half inch on a cigarette. Lower your score one point if you exercise regularly and frequently.

## Cholesterol or saturated fat intake level:

A cholesterol blood level is best, if you can't get one from your doctor, then estimate honestly the percentage of solid fats you eat. These are usually of animal origin—lard, cream, butter, and beef and lamb fat. If you eat more of this, your cholesterol level probably will be high. The U.S. average, 40% is too high for good health.

## Blood pressure:

If you have no recent reading but have passed an insurance or industrial examination, chances are you are 140 or less.

## Sex:

This line takes into account the fact that men have from 6 to 10 times more heart attacks than women of child-bearing age.

Your Score

## AGE

## HEREDITY

## WEIGHT

## TOBACCO SMOKING

## EXERCISE

## CHOLESTEROL OF FAT % IN DIET

## BLOOD PRESSURE

## SEX

1	2	3	4	6	8
10 to 20	21 to 30	31 to 40	41 to 50	51 to 60	61 and over
1	2	3	4	6	7
No known history of heart disease	1 relative with cardiovascular disease over 60	2 relatives with cardiovascular disease over 60	1 relative with cardiovascular disease under 60	2 relatives with cardiovascular disease under 60	3 relatives with cardiovascular disease under 60
0	1	2	3	5	7
More than 5 lbs. below standard weight	-5 to +5 lbs. standard weight	6-20 lbs. overweight	21-35 lbs. overweight	36-50 lbs. overweight	51 or more lbs. overweight
0	1	2	4	6	10
Non-user	Cigar and/or pipe	10 cigarettes or less a day	20 cigarettes a day	30 cigarettes a day	40 cigarettes or more a day
1	2	3	5	6	8
Intensive occupational and recreational exertion	Moderate occupational and recreational exertion	Sedentary work and intense recreational exertion	Sedentary occupational and moderate recreational exertion	Sedentary work and light recreational exertion	Complete lack of all exercise
1	2	3	4	5	7
Cholesterol below 180 mg. Diet contains no animal or solid fats	Cholesterol 181-205 mg. Diet contains 10% animal or solid fats	Cholesterol 206-230 mg. Diet contains 20% animal or solid fats	Cholesterol 231-255 mg. Diet contains 30% animal or solid fats	Cholesterol 256-280 mg. Diet contains 40% animal or solid fats	Cholesterol 281 or more mg. Diet contains 50% or more animal or solid fats
1	2	3	4	6	8
100 upper reading	120 upper reading	140 upper reading	160 upper reading	180 upper reading	200 or over upper reading
1	2	3	5	6	7
Female under 40	Female 40-50	Female over 50	Male	Stocky male	Bald stocky male



# *Don't Put Your Business In The Street!*

by Pete Simer

Chances are that you have heard such mini-admonitions as *Mum's the word* and *The walls have ears*. In the wild outlaw days of the Old West it was *A careless tongue can getcha hung*. During World War II we were warned *A slip of the lip can sink a ship*. And now, from the underworld, up pops the title admonition.

"Exactly what does *Don't put your business in the street* mean?" I put that question to a fellow inmate at Southern Michigan Prison—a young, enterprising and personable ex-housebreaker whom I shall call Jerry. I expected a simple explanation. I got his story..

As with many errant teenagers, Jerry had started by breaking into gas stations, reaping coins from candy, cigarette and pop machines. One night as he got a stolen car gassed up, he went inside to case the place and overheard a station attendant on the telephone.

"Glad I caught you in, Mr. Miller," the attendant had said. "The boat, motor and trailer that you left with us—well, a man came in this afternoon, checked your rig and liked what he saw; said he would be back. He returned just minutes ago and paid in full, \$650 cash. We're closing in five minutes, but I'll leave a note and the money for my boss. You can pick up your cash and attend to the ownership transfer in the morning. You're welcome, sir. Goodnight."

I was about to comment on the attendant's carelessness when Jerry said, "As so often happens, the guy had unwittingly proved the multiple dangers of putting one's business in the street by simultaneously broadcasting his employer's business as well. As calmly as I could, I paid my bill, left, drove around the block and parked where I could watch the station. I saw most of the lights go out, then (through binoculars that I'd picked up in a house burglary) I watched the guy hide the \$650 and, as it turned out, the night's receipts. I went into temporary retirement after that; bought a used car and invested in a correspondence course in locksmithing. A few weeks later, I took a partner named Arlene—a high school dropout who was eager to sample the morphine of easy money. Then, armed with ambition and knowledge, I turned pro."

Jerry skipped lightly over the next two years, during which he and the girl had "worked strictly by ear", acquired a degree of sophistication and advanced to jobs like the coin collection caper, of which he seemed most proud. It had started in a suburban beauty salon when Arlene heard an attractive customer putting her business in the street.

"Would you believe," the lady had said to the stylist who had done her hair, "Frank is taking me on a second honeymoon—a whole week! And would you believe, he has agreed to leave his coin collection at home! Ever since his boss offered seventeen thousand for that collection, Frank has seemed more married to it than to me! And would you believe..."

Arlene had gone to the restroom, removed a walkie-talkie radio from her purse and alerted Jerry in a car parked nearby. "Tall blonde in deep purple pants suit, stacks up like a seventeen-grand coin collection."

It had been an "ear" and "tail" operation. In each case, depending on which played the "ear", Jerry or Arlene had tailed potential victims to their homes. They rendezvoused later at a motel to plan the burglary and decide whether the loot justified the risk.

"What amazed me most throughout," Jerry concluded, "was that so many people—even those who apply every precaution in the book to protect their homes and valuables—just can't seem to grasp the fact that burglars, and other thieves, have big ears. And the more clever the crooks are the more acute their hearing is." So...

*Don't put your business in the street!*

To minimize their chances of being finked on, ripped off, hauled in and rubbed out, underworld professionals live by that tenet. And whatever success common criminals enjoy often comes because their victims do not.

*NOTE FROM THE EDITOR: This product of SMP's Inmate Writing Program is being submitted to many company and association publications, exclusive to none. Many thanks for the reading! — Pete*



# Business and Energy: A Forecast

from the U.S. Department of Commerce

To large degree, the high standard of living achieved in the United States reflects the nation's productivity. Our enormous output of goods and services could not be possible without the use of vast amounts of energy.

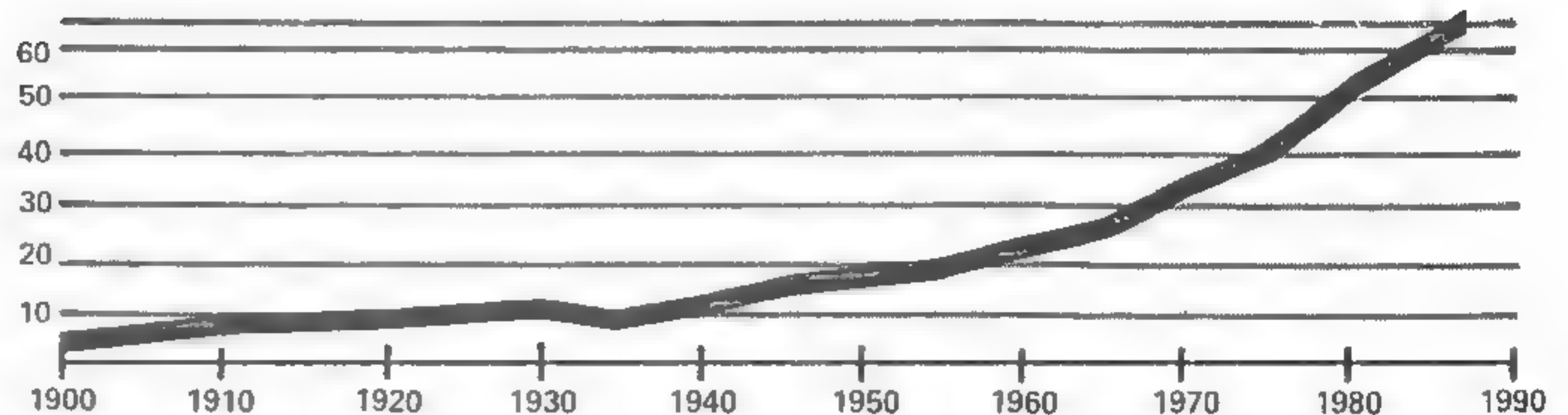
Some 70 percent of all energy used in the United States is consumed by the business and industrial community. It is estimated that in 1972 alone, energy costs to industry amounted to some \$24 billion, excluding transportation. Industry's energy bill for that year, including transportation, ran \$31 billion. With energy costs on the increase, today's price tag will far surpass those figures.

What are some of the facts regarding energy that demand the continuance of energy conservation practices into the future? Here is a capsule rundown of some of those facts:

- \* The U.S. currently uses over 36 million barrels-per-day of oil equivalent energy, and at recent trends, we could be using as much as 64 million barrels-per-day in 1985.
- \* Oil was the largest source of primary energy in 1970 and will continue to be in 1985; oil is expected to accomodate nearly half of the nation's energy needs between now and 1985.
- \* In 1970, each American used 57 barrels a year of oil equivalent energy; based on recent trends, he could be using 88 barrels a year by 1985.
- \* Domestic energy supply fell 7 million barrels-per-day short of domestic demand in 1973; by 1975, we could be importing 50% of our oil, at a cost of over \$30 million, if recent trends in demand continue.
- \* Huge amounts of energy are used in the process of generating electricity; in 1970, over 7 million barrels-per-day of oil equivalent went to the production of electricity, and by 1980, over 13 million barrels-per-day will be used to generate electricity, or some 27% of the energy supply.

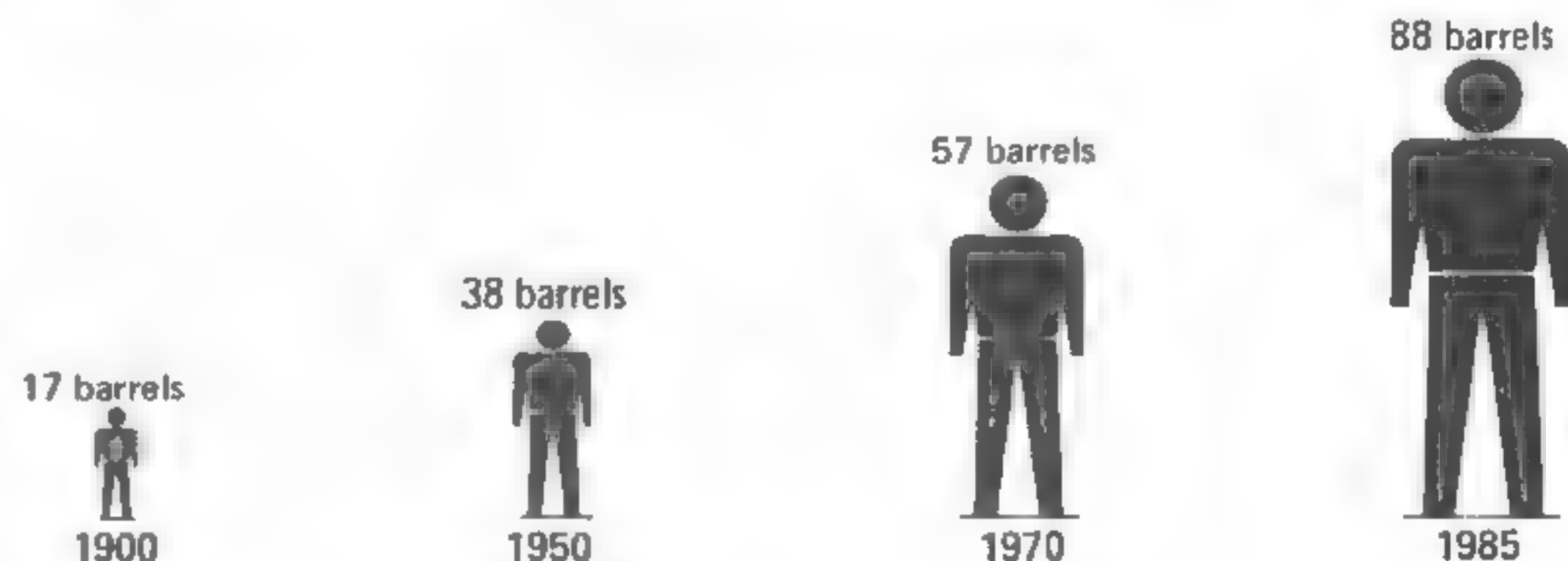
Millions of  
Barrels per day  
Oil Equivalent

## U.S. ENERGY DEMAND



It took 50 years for the U.S. demand to increase from 4 to 6 million barrels-per-day of oil equivalent, yet in the last 20 years, that demand has mushroomed to 32 million barrels-per-day. If recent growth rates continue, the U.S. could be using 64 million barrels-per-day by the mid-1980's.

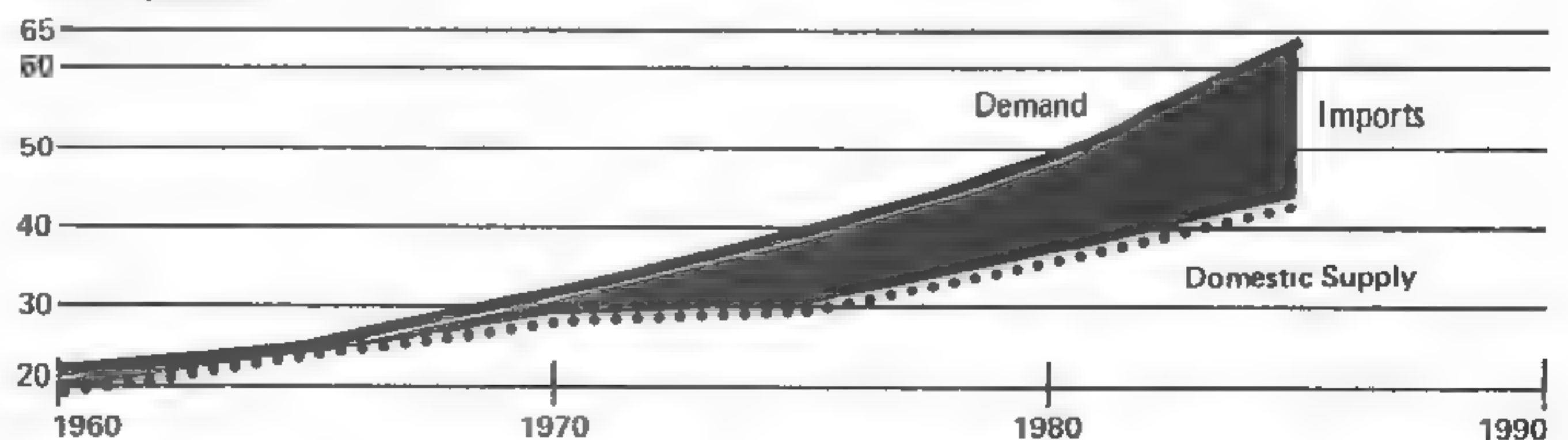
## U.S. PER-CAPITA ENERGY CONSUMPTION



In 1900, each U.S. citizen used only 17 barrels a year of oil equivalent. Fifty years later, annual per capita consumption stood at 38 barrels, or an average increase of only 4 barrels each decade. In 1970, each American was using 57 barrels a year, and if recent trends continue will be using 88 barrels in 1985, an increase of 31 barrels in just 15 years.

Millions of  
Barrels per day  
Oil Equivalent

## U.S. ENERGY IMPORTS



Energy demands are outpacing the domestic supply. Since the late 1960's, the U.S. has been importing larger quantities of energy. Today we import over one-third of our oil, or about 15% of our total energy needs.

(Continued)



- \* Some 80% of the total end-use consumption of energy in the industrial and business community is devoted to space conditioning in buildings and industrial processes necessary for production; the remaining 20 percent goes to transportation.
- \* If the demand for all types of energy does reach 64 million barrels-per-day by 1985, meeting this growth with domestic sources would require the equivalent of:
  - discovering and putting on stream new oil supplies equal to 13 times the yield from Alaska's Prudhoe Bay field which is still not in operation, and constructing 130 new 200,000 barrels-per-day refineries to process the oil.
  - or, digging the equivalent of the Panama Canal more than 150 times to obtain enough coal.
  - or, developing and bringing on line more than one new 1000 megawatt nuclear power station (the size of the largest now in existence) each week between now and 1985.

By applying existing energy conservation techniques, engineers, plant managers and consultants agree that realistically, energy savings on the order of 10-20 percent can be achieved. If business and industry reduced their energy consumption by only 5%, it would mean a savings of over 1 million barrels-per-day oil equivalent. This is equal to 17% of our present oil imports.

All energy consumers — business and industry, employer and employee — should be concerned with the continuing need to conserve energy. While many consumers take for granted energy's continuing availability, America will be in for a long siege of energy scarcity if the demand for energy continues to outstrip supply. Until new energy resources are brought on stream, the conservation of our available energy must be a priority effort on the part of its greatest users — America's business and industrial community.

Jim Towers (left) - assistant to the vice president in Baton Rouge, recently attended the Governmental Affairs Committee of the Baton Rouge Area Chamber of Commerce breakfast held at the Prince Muriat. Louisiana House of Representative David R. Poynter (center) praised the Legislature's permanent committee and said that the Legislature had become more responsive in the past two years. Towers is chairman of the Governmental Affairs Committee. On the right is Gus Weill of Bart-Weill, Inc.

## *Saunders Saves Girl's Life*



FRANCIS SAUNDERS

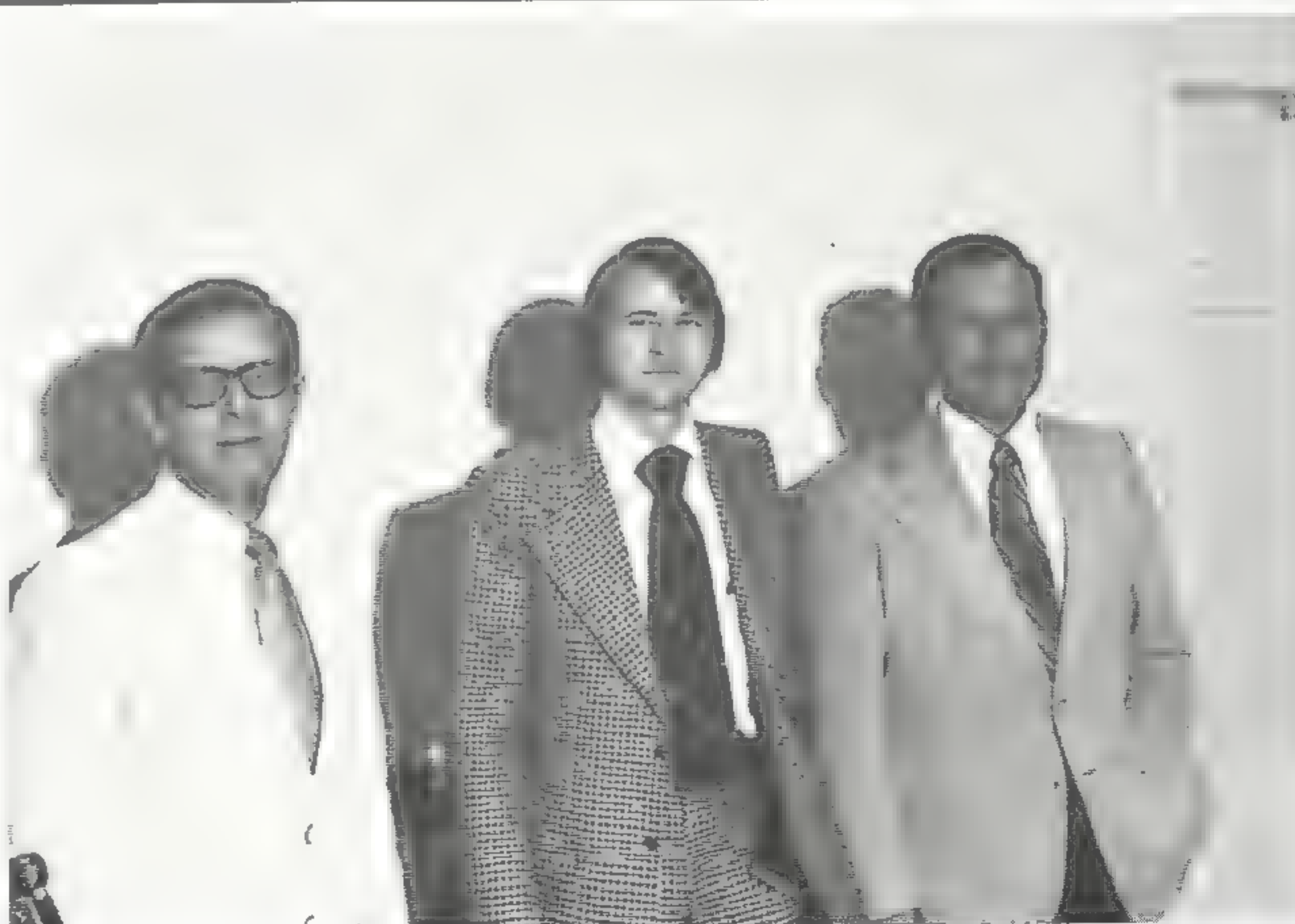
Thanks to the quick action of Francis Saunders, husband of Lake Charles Home Service Advisor Beverly Saunders, a two-year-old Iowa girl is alive today - instead of drowned.

On June 16 at the North Beach at Lake Charles, little Laura Mitts of Iowa and her grandmother (Mrs. Alta Stelly of Lake Charles) were wading in about one foot of water. An incoming wave hit Laura in the face, taking her breath away and sending her beneath the surface unconscious.

When Mrs. Stelly screamed, Francis, a McNeese pre-med major and employed by the city as a lifeguard, rushed over and helped get the child to the beach. He and an unidentified nurse then gave little Laura mouth-to-mouth resuscitation until an ambulance arrived. The child was then given oxygen and taken to St. Patrick's Hospital.

A spectator at the beach said that "the little girl had stopped breathing when the lifeguard arrived."

Today Laura is apparently okay after her close brush with death, and Mrs. Stelly will always remember June 16 - and Francis Saunders, with gratitude.





# Open Mail

Mr. Jerry StDizier  
Nelson Station  
Gulf States Utilities  
Westlake, Louisiana

Dear Mr. StDizier:

All of us here at LaGrange Middle School wish to express to you our appreciation for your assistance in arranging the tour which our classes made of the Nelson Plant on April 3rd and April 5th. I think this has been a very good experience for all those involved.

Would you please convey our thanks to all of the people who so graciously gave of their time, efforts, and talents to make our tour meaningful and memorable. We wish to thank Mrs. Patsy Cook, Mr. Ferdinand McGee, Mr. Watler, Mr. Sanders, Mr. Doucet, Mr. Dykes, and all of the other fine people whose names I do not know but who extended every courtesy to us during our visit.

It is such cooperation as that which all of you have shown which helps to make our Career Education program successful.

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Rose C. Wilson  
Vocational-Technical Counselor

Mr. Doc Charlton  
Orange, Texas

Dear Doc:

Just wanted to let you know that the Credit Management Seminar held in your facilities were a great success and I personally wanted to thank you and all the fine people at Gulf States for allowing us to use your fine meeting facilities for this seminar.

If we can reciprocate in anyway, please let us know. I remain,

Very Truly Yours,  
Michael Pasternak  
President, Orange Bank

Mr. Frank H. Jones  
Public Relations Representatives  
Gulf States Utilities Company  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Dear Mr. Jones:

The science teachers and students of Scotlandville Junior High School would like to express our appreciation for the Gulf States Utilities' presentation on "The Energy Crisis." Your representatives were kind enough to make presentations on both April 4th and 5th, to our seventh and eighth grade science classes.

We feel the presentations were excellent and of benefit to both faculty and students.

Sincerely,  
James C. Altemus  
Science Chairman

Mr. William G. Hollins  
District Superintendent  
Gulf States Utilities Co.  
Beaumont, Texas

Dear Mr. Hollins:

I went to Caplen last Monday morning to arrange for grass cutting, not knowing a storm had struck the beach house the night before.

There was quite a bit of damage, including a broken window that we had no way of reaching to board up. While we were trying to decide how to get the job done, your Mr. Louis Cox arrived to see if we had any electrical problems. Fortunately, we did not. He said he had been up all night as a result of the storm, but you could not tell it from his helpful attitude. He put his extension ladder up to the window and patched it with some plastic we had on hand. This didn't take over five minutes of his time, but it saved us a lot of trouble.

This is typical of the help we have received from Gulf States in the past, and we thought you would like to know about it. It is a comfort to us to know we have such a competent man as Mr. Cox in our area in times of emergency.

Yours truly,  
C. Elery Holland



Mr. Mike Shurtleff, Editor  
PLAIN TALKS  
Beaumont, Texas

Dear Mr. Shurtleff:

Thanks to your company for having sent PLAIN TALKS to me over the years. The publication has been used by my students to good advantage in my business journalism course.

I appreciate having had your work as a teaching aid and the company's expense in putting it out and the mailings. Business has helped education, and I hope that some of my students may help your company in being good employees.

Good Wishes,  
E. Glenn Griffin  
Professor, Purdue University

Mr. Mike Shurtleff, Editor  
Plain Talks & GSU News  
Gulf States Utilities Co.  
Beaumont, Texas

Dear Mike:

We want to thank you for the nice cover story on The Woodlands in the March issue of Plain Talks.

If you would send me a dozen copies for distribution to our people, it would be greatly appreciated.

Anytime you are in the area, please feel free to visit with us.

Thanks Again,  
Herb Jaster  
Public Relations,  
The Woodlands Development Corp.  
Conroe, Texas

Mr. Floyd Smith, Chairman  
Gulf States Utilities Company  
Beaumont, Texas

Dear Floyd:

I want to express my appreciation for the fine help I just got from your organization when our refrigerator went bad recently.

First, a service man came and checked out the box when it began to fail, and reported the problem and the alternatives for me. I decided to get a new refrigerator.

So they installed a loan box until the new one could be delivered. It had to be painted to match the kitchen decor, so they delivered it to the paint shop for me, and, yesterday they picked it up and installed it.

Every employee who helped us was courteous and went out of their way to be helpful. I was not at home at the time of any of their visits and I do not know the names of the men who did the work; however, they deserve special commendation.

It is wonderful to feel that, in a time of emergency, we can call on a fine organization that cares enough for its retirees to do the kind of job they did for us — even though I have been retired nine years.

Sincerely  
Alan W. Hastings

Gulf States Utilities Company  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Gentlemen:

We wish to express our gratitude to your company when this firm suffered a fire on April 7, 1974.

It was a great satisfaction to observe professionals at work, and we wish you would extend to your people our profound thanks for their conduct on our behalf.

Sincerely yours,  
W. M. Heroman  
Walter L. McCann

*Editor's Note: This letter is from W. M. Heroman and Co., Inc., of Baton Rouge, La.*

# To Our Employees



Dear Mr. Singletary,

As I look back over this school year, the trip to Gulf States was certainly a highlight. It was educational for the students to see the equipment they had read about and fun because of the change in routine.

It was so nice of you to give your time to us and we all really appreciated your efforts.

Thank you.  
Mrs. Kary Haas

Mr. Fred Eubanks  
P. O. Box 2431  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821

Dear Sir:

I would like to thank Gulf States Utilities Company for the great change in our voltage and service which was occasioned by placing a new pole closer to our home and also by putting in the proper size cable. Many people played a part in this change and although it dragged on for quite a while, once I got to the right person, things really began to click.

This very efficient member of your personnel is in your department Mrs. Nancy Melancon. She coordinated the installation of the new cable and saw that the crew who did a little trimming were followed soon after by the men who did the actual installation. She is quite polite and accommodating to deal with. Today it is a little unusual to find someone who takes a job seriously and believes in giving one's best.

All of the workmen were agreeable and accommodating. However, I was on the inside most of the time while my husband was on the outside with them. He joins me in thanks.

Sincerely yours,

Peggy M. Perkins  
(Mrs. Verdie R. Perkins)

Mr. Jack Worthy  
Gulf States Utilities Company  
446 North Boulevard  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Dear Jack:

Last night I had a peculiar electrical problem involving more than I could handle myself. I called Gulf States and got practically immediate help. Your man Leslie David was most courteous and helpful. In fact, he sent someone out and fixed everything.

Thanks for having such a fine staff and please thank him for me again.

Sincerely,

Robert R. Brooksher



Mr. F. D. Eubanks  
General Line Foreman  
Gulf States Utilities  
P. O. Box 2431  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Dear Sir:

We would like to express our appreciation to Miss Gladys Smith and to Gulf States Utilities for assistance in our Driver Education program at Broadmoor High School. Miss Smith has secured films for us on many occasions. This has greatly enriched and contributed to our instruction. We must acknowledge the courtesy with which Miss Smith has dealt with us. She certainly is a good public relations person for Gulf States Utilities.

Thanks again to Gulf States Utilities for helping us.

Sincerely,

Clyde V. Perkins  
H. Ellis Fowler  
Driver Education Instructors

Gulf States Utilities Auditorium  
209 Strickland  
Orange, Texas 77630

Dear Sir:

On behalf of the Texas Safety Association I would like to extend our sincere thanks for helping conduct our recent OSHA seminar in Orange by providing us with the excellent facilities at Gulf States Utilities Auditorium.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Coonrod  
Director of Training  
and Education





## *Lee, Williams Honored By C of C*

Bill Lee, Port Arthur industrial sales engineer, won second place in the Port Arthur Chamber of Commerce membership drive contest. Sue Williams, Port Arthur home service advisor, is the Company's representative in the Chamberettes, a VIP welcoming committee. Sue is also serving as coordinator of the Chamberettes.

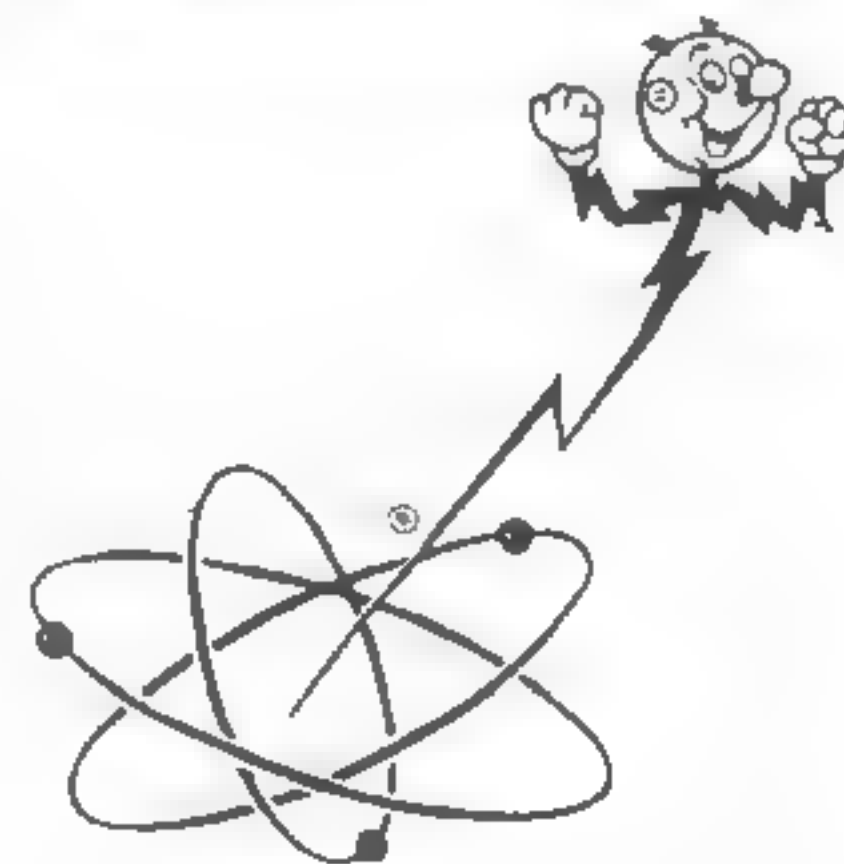
## Thrift Plan

Purchases of Gulf States Utilities Company stock made by the Trustee during June, 1974, covering employee deductions and Company contributions through May, 1974, were as follows:

6,968 shares of common stock at a total cost of \$86,933.38, for an average cost per share of \$12.476.

85 shares of \$4.40 Preferred stock at a total cost of \$4,825.50, for an average cost per share of \$56.771.

The Trustee deposited \$45,902.45 with the Savings Department of the First Security National Bank.



## DID YOU KNOW?

... that 37% of electric generating capacity added by utilities in the United States during 1974 will be nuclear, according to a survey by the National Electrical Manufacturers Association.



# RETIREMENTS



MILDRED F. OSBORNE

Mildred F. Osborne, Beaumont secretary to the chairman of the board, retired from the Company August 1. She had been with GSU for some 34 years.

Mrs. Osborne was employed in October, 1940, coming to work in the System Industrial Sales Department. In 1950, she was named supervisor to the stenographic pool and in 1957 was transferred to the Executive Department as secretary to Alan Hastings, assistant to the chairman. After his retirement, she was secretary to H. E. Mortimer, assistant to the chairman, until her promotion in March, 1966 to secretary to the chairman of the board.

Mrs. Osborne has one daughter, and her husband, John, is retired from Texaco, Inc., in Port Arthur.



LANDREAUX F. DONALDSON

Landreaux F. Donaldson, Baton Rouge T&D (Service) Department, retired August 1. He had been with the Company for 44 years.

A native of Gross Tete, La., Donaldson was employed by the Company in August, 1930, as an apprentice lineman in the Baton Rouge T&D (Line) Department. He progressed to utility man in July, 1934, in the Meter and Service Department, then to meterman-1st class in the Meter Department in September, 1941.

In June, 1946, Donaldson was promoted to foreman of the Service Department. He was promoted to service supervisor in October, 1955.

All of his time with the Company was spent in Baton Rouge. Retirement plans call for gardening, hunting, fishing and some travel.



# SERVICE AWARDS

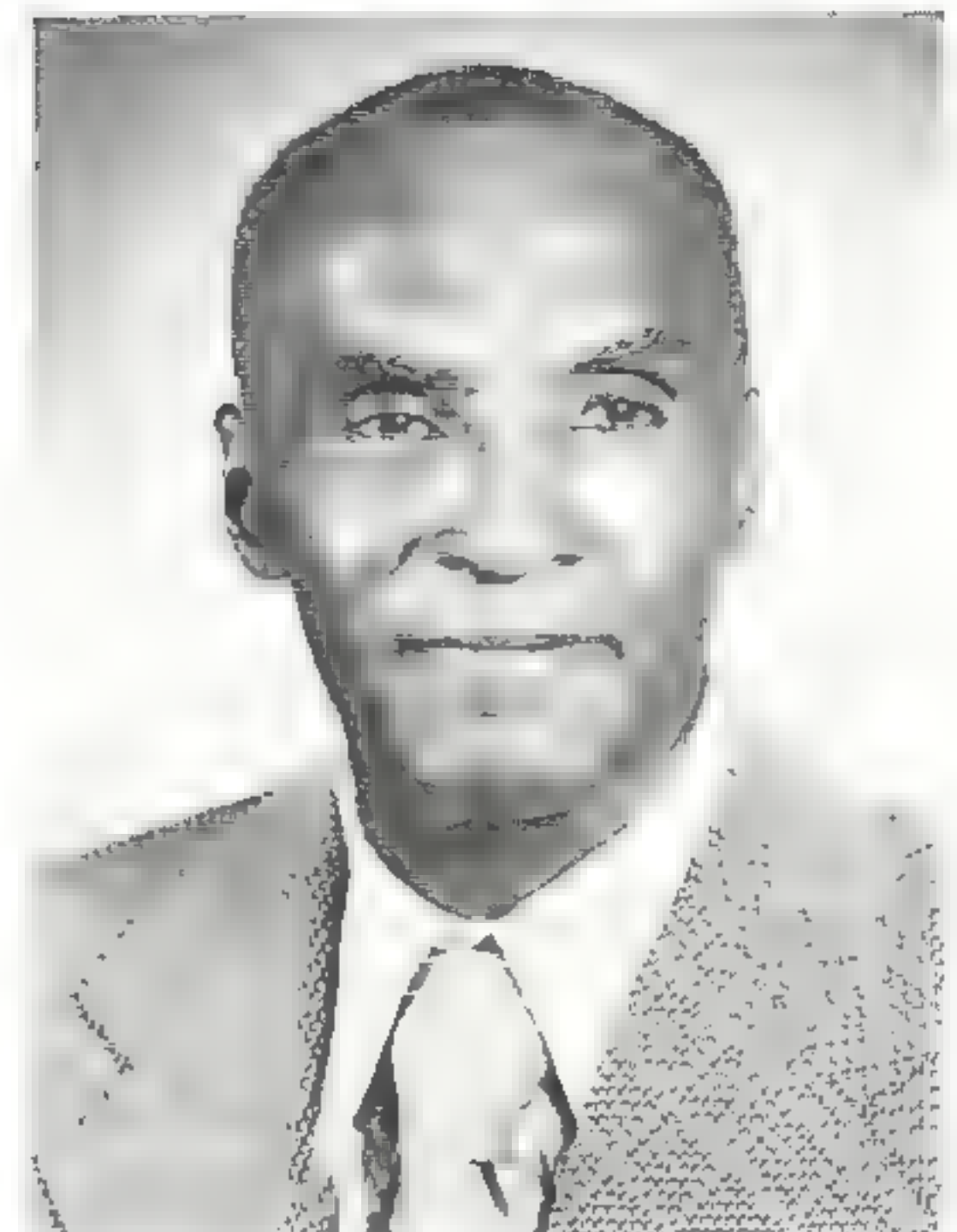
## 30 Years



**George W. Boswell**  
Electric T&D  
Silsbee

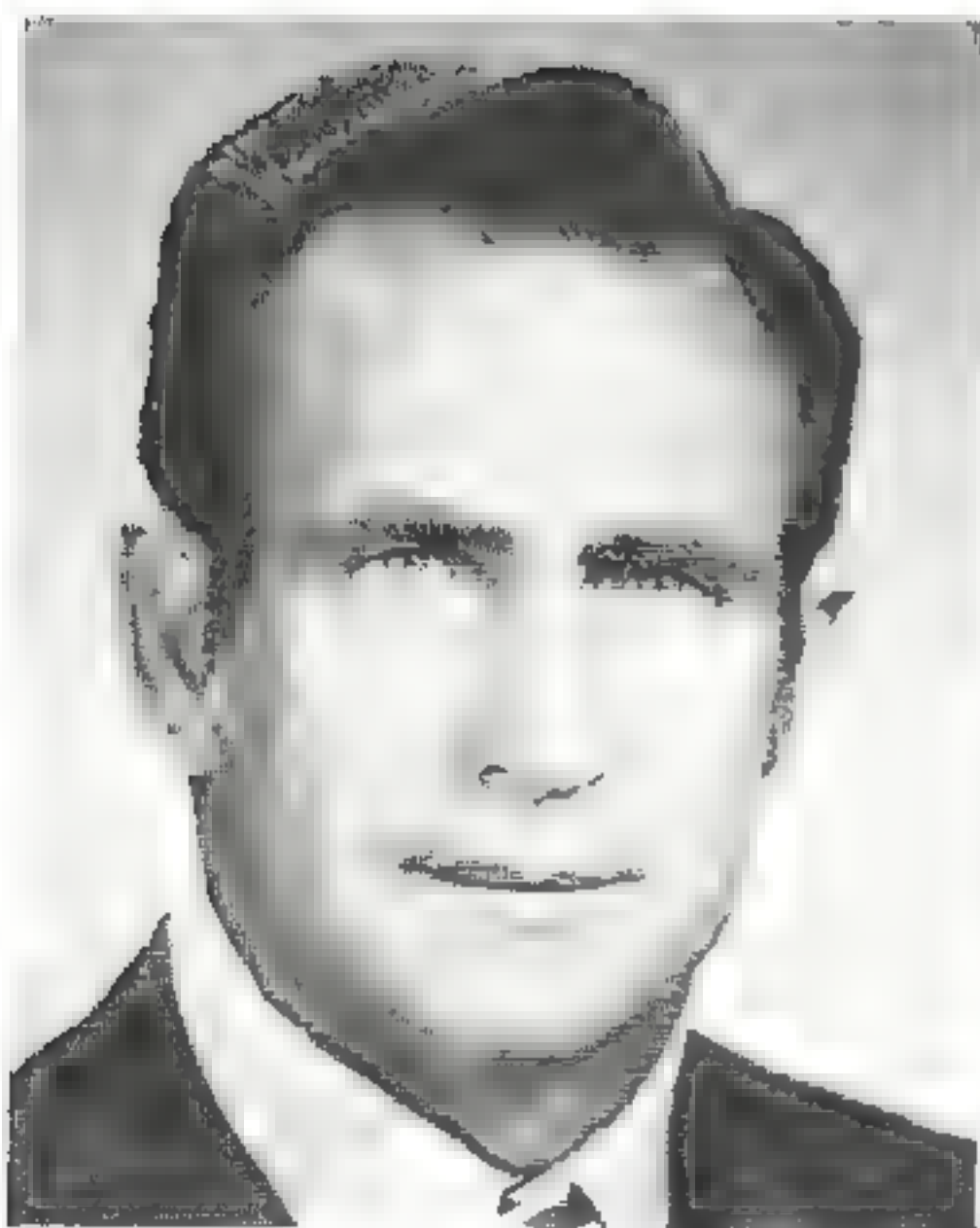


**Edward Duhon**  
Electric T&D  
Lake Charles



**Henry Sanford**  
Division Production  
Baton Rouge

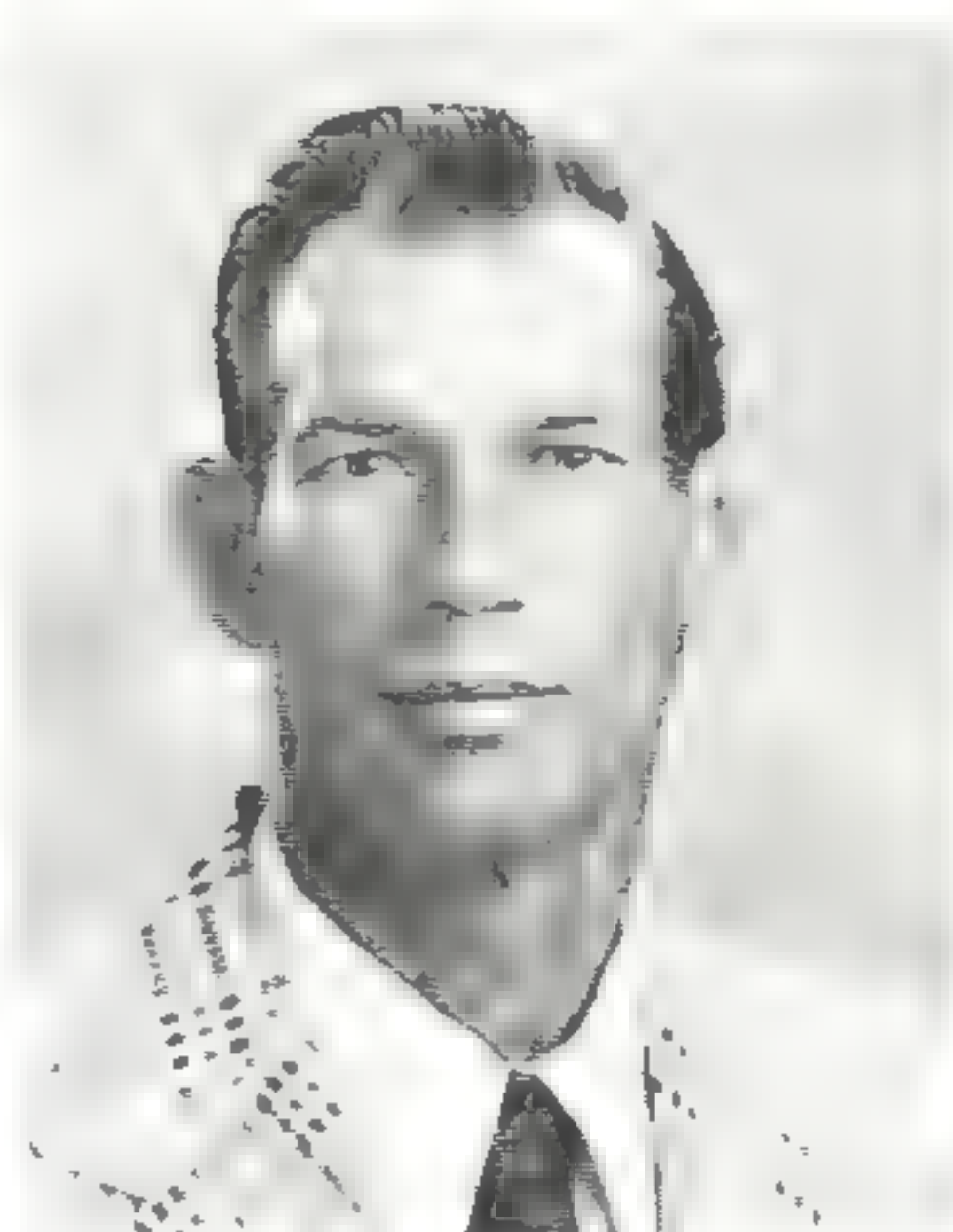
## 20 Years



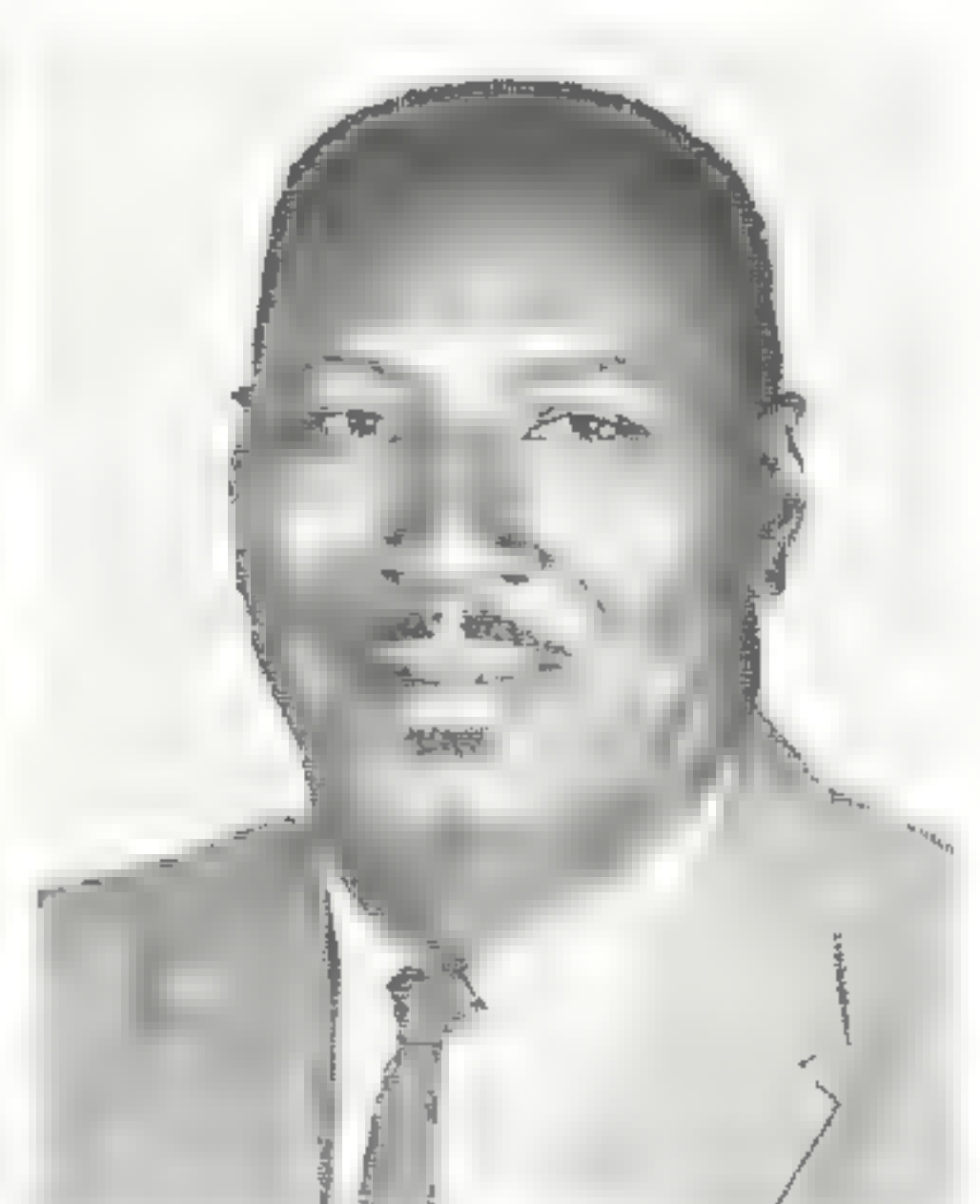
**John G. Aime**  
Electric T&D  
Baton Rouge



**Melvin M. Feagin**  
Electric T&D  
Conroe



**Harry J. Henry**  
Electric T&D  
Sulphur



**Isaac Jefferson, Jr.**  
Electric T&D  
Baton Rouge



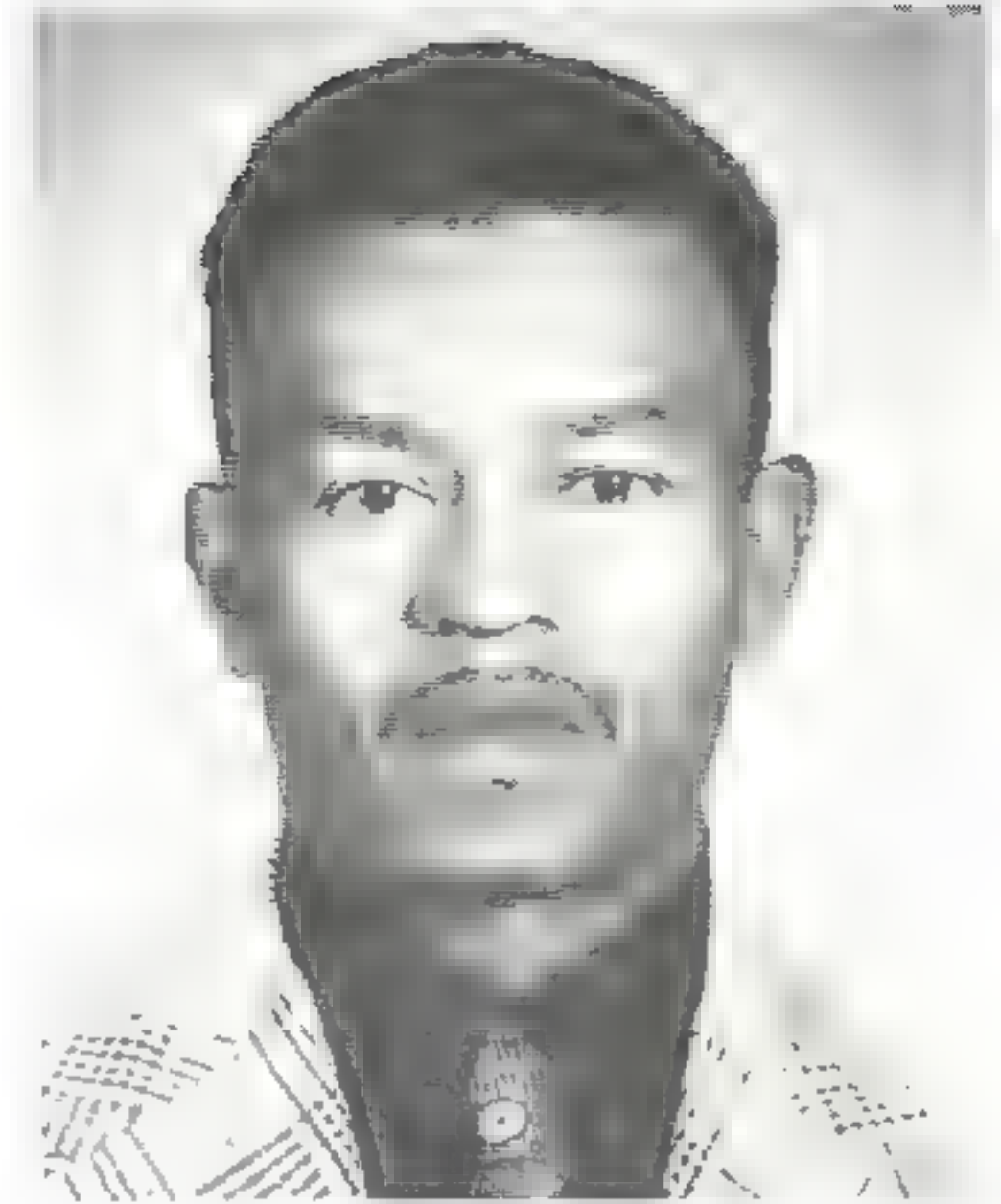
## 20 Years



**Felton L. Kelly**  
Electric T&D  
Baton Rouge



**Viva B. Parkhurst**  
Division Treasury  
Orange



**Clarence Patin**  
Electric T&D  
Baton Rouge



**Richard E. Smith**  
IDS  
Beaumont



**Joel B. Thompson**  
Electric T&D  
Beaumont

## 10 Years



**Dorothy D. Henry**  
System Treasury  
Beaumont



# PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

Five promotions have been announced in Beaumont System Treasury. Evan E. (Kit) Evans - customer accounting coordinator - has been promoted to supervisor-Customer Accounting; Ervin W. Berger and Dan T. Stathos - administrative accountants - have been promoted to senior administrative accountants; Grady M. Smith - tax accountant - has been promoted to senior tax accountant and William D. Maxey - tax representative - has been promoted to tax accountant.

Evans, a native of Emporia, Kansas, joined the Company in August, 1956, as a senior accounting clerk, General Accounting Department, in Beaumont System Treasury. He progressed through positions in the Machine Accounting-Billing and IDS Departments, then becoming customer accounting coordinator, Accounting Operations, in May, 1969.

He is married to the former Jeanette Ann Tompkins of Beckville, Texas, and they have two children; Tommy, age 18, and Susan, age 14. He served in the Navy from 1954 to 1956 and holds a BBA degree from Stephen F. Austin University.

Berger joined the Company in February, 1970, as an administrative accountant. A native of Shiner, Texas, he is married to the former Lynette Darilek of Moulton, Texas. They have one daughter, Shawn Denyse, three years old.

Berger is a member of the YMCA, and he and his family attend St. Pius Catholic Church in Beaumont. He holds a BBA degree from the University of Texas.

Stathos, an Elkins, North Carolina, native, joined the Company in February, 1971 as an administrative accountant. He holds a BBA degree in accounting from the University of Texas and is married to the former Phyllis Liddle of Beaumont.

He holds a membership in the Central YMCA, is treasurer for Fairway Houses, Inc., is a member of the Live Wires Board of Directors and belongs to the University of Texas Ex Students Association. Stathos also was an advisor for Junior Achievement Companies in 1973-74 and received the 1970 civic achievement award, given by the Austin Optimists.

Smith, a native of Daingerfield, Texas, is a 22-year veteran of the Company. He holds a BS degree in business from Lamar University and is married to the former Nelda Baxley of Beaumont. The Smiths have one daughter, Glenda, age 17.



EVAN E. EVANS



ERVIN W. BERGER



DAN T. STATHOS



GRADY M. SMITH



WILLIAM D. MAXEY

(Continued)



(PEOPLE ON THE MOVE, Continued)

A two-year veteran of the Army, Smith has served as a member of the board of directors of the Texas affiliate of the American Heart Association and was music director at the Pine Burr Baptist Church.

Maxey joined the Company in June, 1972 in Beaumont as an administrative accountant. He became a tax representative in October, 1973.

A native of Alexandria, La., Maxey holds a BS degree from McNeese State University and is working toward a master's degree in business administration at Lamar University. He is a member of the 4161st U.S. Army Reserve School unit with the rank of specialist-fourth class and is married to the former Debbie Searle of Gueydan, La.

Maxey is a member of the Beaumont Young Men's Business League.

Kenneth T. Webb, EDP Systems Design supervisor in Beaumont, has been transferred to Port Arthur and promoted to division accounting supervisor.

Webb, employed in 1961 in computer operations, was later made a junior accountant. He returned to data processing after several years and progressed in that field. He was named project leader and later promoted to supervisor in Systems Design.

Webb received his bachelor's degree in business administration in 1961 from Lamar University and is a veteran of the Texas Air National Guard. He is married to the former Delores Moore of Beaumont, and the couple has one son, Kenneth Tracy, Jr., six years of age. Webb is an active member of the Beaumont Young Men's Christian Association and Bayou Din Country Club.

Mrs. Peggie B. Stout, EDP librarian in the Data Services Department of the Company in Beaumont, has been promoted to coordinator-nuclear records in the Records Management Department.

Mrs. Stout, a native of Freeport, has been with the Company since 1957. Her duties have also included work in the Engineering and Records Departments. She was promoted to EDP librarian in 1967.

She is married to R. J. Stout, and the couple has one daughter, Pam Hebert, of Shreveport, La.

Joseph S. Guercio, shift supervisor at Louisiana Station, has been promoted to station supervisor.

Guercio, a native of White Castle, was employed by the Company in 1955 at Louisiana Station. He progressed through various classifications there and in 1973



KENNETH T. WEBB



PEGGIE B. STOUT



JOSEPH S. GUERCIO

(Continued)



(PEOPLE ON THE MOVE, Continued)

was promoted to equipment operator and transferred to Willow Glen Station. In 1969 he moved up to control operations foreman, and in 1970 was transferred back to Louisiana Station and promoted to shift supervisor.

Guercio is a veteran of the Army, having served from 1953 to 1955. He has been active in the Kilowatt Club. He is married to the former Daisy Lee Smith of Baton Rouge, and the couple has four daughters, Darlene, 19, Jo Lynn, 18, Jan, 13, and Gina, 8. They also have one son, Jodie, 5.

Ronald M. McKenzie, labor relations coordinator for the Company in Beaumont, has been promoted to division engineer, Beaumont.

McKenzie has been with the Company since 1966. Employed as an engineer at Beaumont, he was transferred to Lake Charles in 1967. He returned to Beaumont in Engineering Planning in 1969 and in 1972 was named labor relations coordinator in the Personnel Department.

A native of Hugo, Okla., McKenzie graduated from Oklahoma State University in 1966 with a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering. He is a veteran of the Navy, having served from 1958 to 1961. He is married to the former Dana Flo Smith of Oklahoma City.

Thomas M. Engels, operations foreman at Willow Glen Station in Baton Rouge, has been promoted to shift supervisor and transferred to Baton Rouge's Louisiana Station.

Engels is a 23-year veteran of the Company, having been employed in 1951 as operator's helper at Louisiana Station. He had worked at various positions at Louisiana Station, was transferred to Willow Glen Station in June, 1973 and was promoted to operations foreman.

He is a native of Baker, La., an Air Force veteran, and is married to the former Shirley McClure of Baker. The couple has four children.

Bobby L. Clay, master test technician at Lewis Creek Station in Willis, Texas, has been promoted to test foreman at Lewis Creek.

Clay, a native of Port Arthur, was employed in June, 1966 at Beaumont's Neches Station as a mechanic's helper. He progressed to test technician-1st class in August, 1970 and was transferred to Lewis Creek Station in October, 1970. He was promoted to master test technician in November, 1972.

Married to the former Marsha Gouthier of Port Arthur, the Clays have two children, Bobby II, age seven and Shannon, age three.

Floyd L. Marston, Gas Department distribution supervisor in Baton Rouge, has been promoted to operating superintendent of the Gas Department. He started with the Company as an engineer in the Gas Department, then progressed to engineering supervisor and distribution supervisor.

Marston, a native of Oklahoma, holds a BS degree in petroleum engineering from Louisiana State University. He is married to the former Margaret Anders of Baton Rouge, and they have four children, Margaret Ann, Floyd Lee III, Wilson Anders and Robert Scott. He is a member of the Baton Rouge Chamber of Commerce and served in the Navy in World War II and Korea.



FLOYD L. MARSTON



RONALD M. McKENZIE



THOMAS M. ENGELS



BOBBY L. CLAY



# Across the System In a Coffee Cup

If you have any story you think is interesting and would like to see in PLAIN TALKS, just contact the reporter nearest you, and he (or she) will see that it gets to the editor. A complete list of the reporters and their location can be found on the first page of each Coffee Cup section.



If you have any news for "Plain Talks," simply send the information to one of the following local reporters. They will be happy to assist you in getting the material to the editor.

## Reporters

**BATON ROUGE:** Margie Force (T&D), T. Boone Chaney (T&D), Melanie Huma (T&D), Jack Gautreaux (T&D), James W. Bello (T&D), Beverly Hull (Gas), Opal Temple (Acct), Robert Graves (T&D), Susan Wilks.

**BEAUMONT:** Bill Toups (S.C.), Barbara Lindsey, Carolyn Motl (T&D), Ann Ogden, Edy Mathews, Linda Marks, Pat Bailey, Dorothy Nowell, Mary Lee Best, Carolyn Thaggard.

**CALVERT:** Betty Dowell.

**CLEVELAND:** Pat Jones, Edd Mitchell.

**CONROE:** Frances Elliot, Bobbie Burke.

**DENHAM SPRINGS:** Lenelle Juban.

**GONZALES:** Billie Fortenberry.

**HUNTSVILLE:** Karen Morley.

**JENNINGS:** Earl Mayfield.

**LAFAYETTE:** Bobbie Denais.

**LAKE CHARLES:** Johnnie Harris (T&D), Janet Followay.

**LA. STATION:** Leslie Jeansonne.

**MADISONVILLE:** Wanda H. Tinsley.

**NAVASOTA:** Betty Dickschat.

**NECHES STATION:** Gene Russell, Hazel Higginbotham.

**NELSON STATION:** Martha Caldwell.

**NEW CANEY:** Diana Winkelmann, Paul Mosley.

**ORANGE:** Doris Womack.

**PORT ALLEN:** Adele Vavasseur.

**PORT ARTHUR:** Sue Williams, Lorraine Dunham (S.C.).

**SABINE STATION:** Kathleen Fuller.

**SILSBEE:** Maxine Bell.

**SOMERVILLE:** Mary Brock.

**SULPHUR:** Pearl Burnett.

**WILLOW GLEN:** Dora Landaiche, James Veatch.

**WOODVILLE:** Alene Cole.

**ZACHARY:** Myra Kirby.

*(Editor's Note: If any of the above reporters are no longer reporting or with the company, we would appreciate knowing about it. This holds true also if any reporter's name has been omitted.)*



This is not a late Easter bunny, but little Kristen Renee Randolph - granddaughter of John C. Derousselle - porter in the Lafayette District Storeroom. Kristen is six months old, and her parents are the Charles Randolphs of San Jose, California. (from Bobbie Denais)



Dana Massengill, Beaumont System Engineering, was given a baby shower on June 20 by Bea Forse, Barbara Cummings, Vicky Thomas and Pat Whitworth. Presents included a baby car seat and hamper. (from the Editor)



Debby Guidroz was presented with a potted plant by fellow employees on her last day at work in the Port Arthur Accounting Department. Debby moved to Houston where her husband is an accountant with Arthur Anderson Accounting Firm. (from Sue Williams)





No, he's not about to eat a golf ball - just giving it a big kiss! Andy Poulson, Beaumont System safety representative, scored the first hole-in-one of his career at Beaumont's Tyrrell Park on July 6. His ace came on the par 3 eighth hole, thanks to a five wood, a good swing and "a measure of luck." To quote Andy, "The ball just bounced once on the edge of the green, rolled up and fell into the hole." That's one shot Andy will remember for a long time! (from the Editor)



Lyle Gerac left his position as accounting supervisor in Port Arthur to assume his position of assistant to the treasurer in Beaumont. Port Arthur honored him and his wife, Marie Louise, with a going-away lunch recently. (from Sue Williams)



**"Personally I'm optimistic about the future. Always have been. It's the here and now that always seems to be fouled up."**



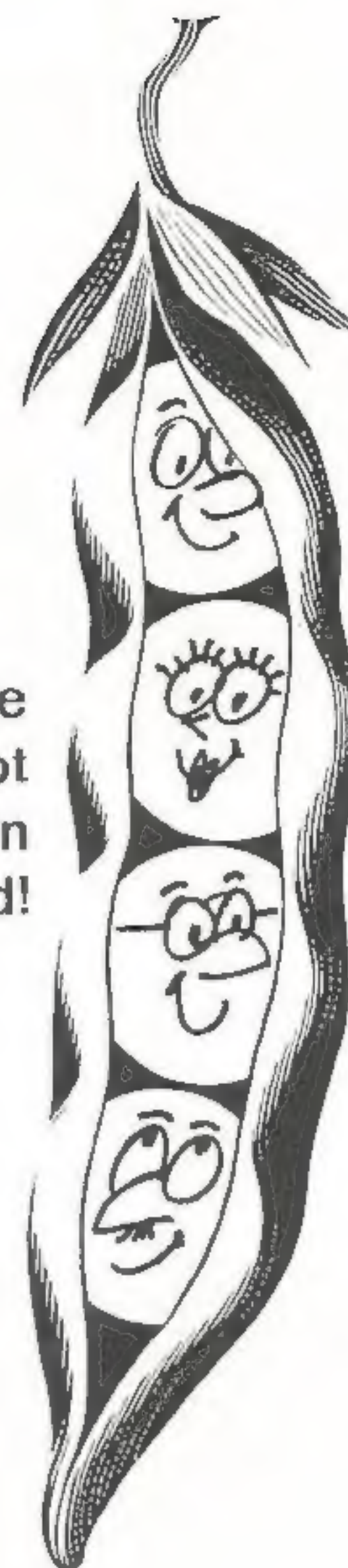
No, this nine-pound bass wasn't caught in the pictured swimming pool. It was pulled in from East Feliciana Parish by Lynn H. Krouse, the proud fisherman holding his prize catch. Lynn is the son of E. S. Krouse, Jr. - Lafayette industrial engineer. (from Bobbie Denais)





Sharon Holloway, Beaumont Rates and Depreciation Department, and her husband, Michael, have adopted a 4-year-old girl named Dawn Renee. A clothes line of gifts and clothes for Dawn Renee Holloway was gathered by Sharon's friends and co-workers at the office. (from Pat McMeel)

People  
Are Not  
Peas in  
a Pod!



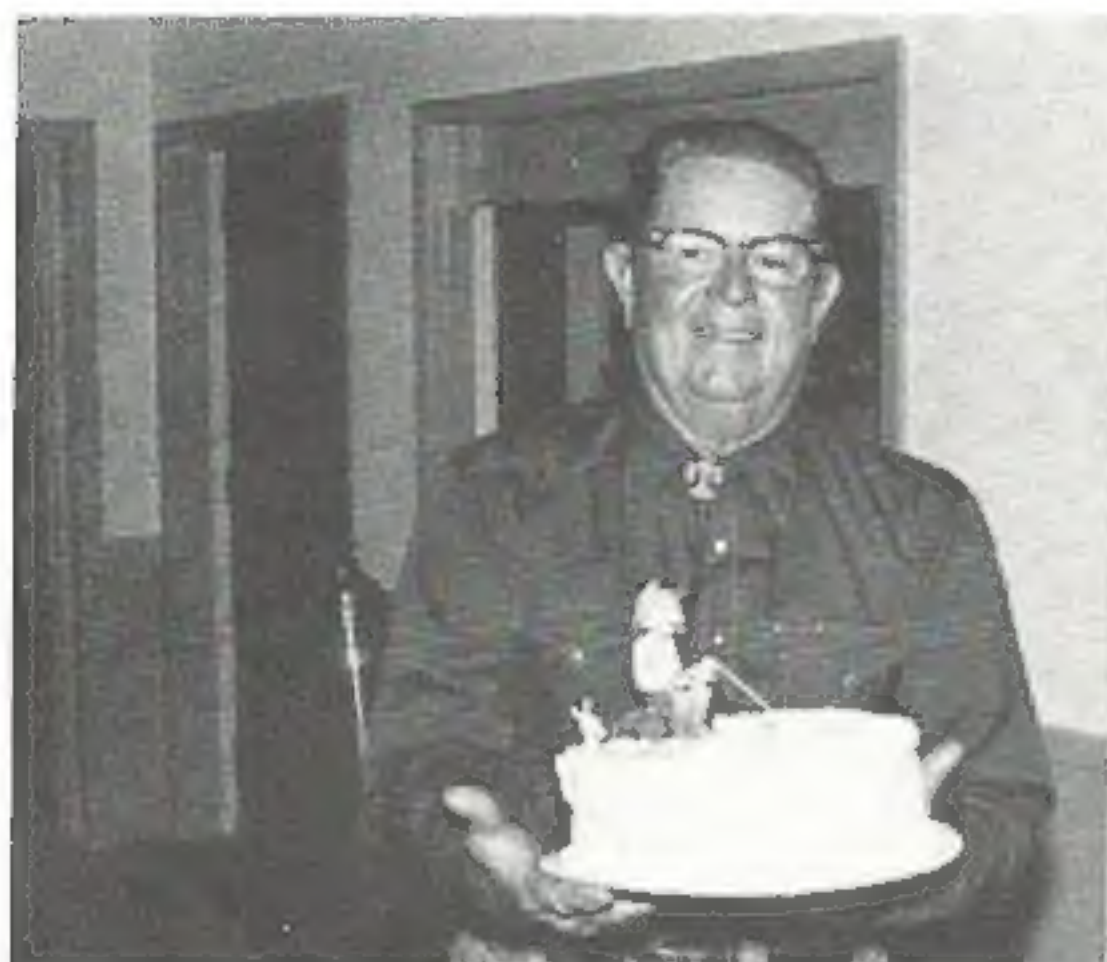
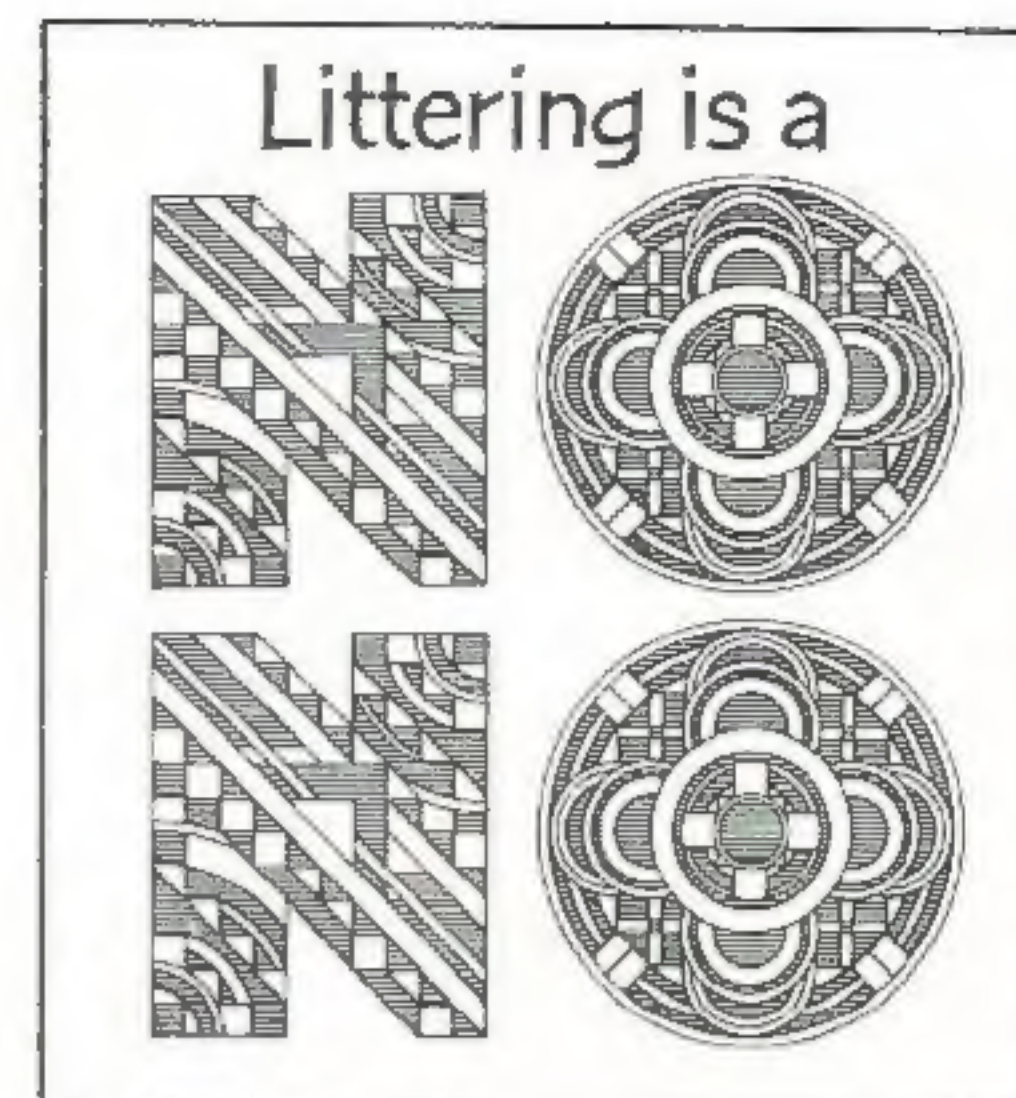
A wedding shower was held recently in the Beaumont office for Mr. and Mrs. Dan Stathos by fellow employees. Dan (senior administrative account) and Phyllis (departmental clerk) were married June 15. Shower gifts included a Corning Ware coffee pot and chip-n-dip tray. (from the Editor)





At recent Walker County Kiwanis Junior Livestock Show, Vickie Lynn and Joe Glynn Heaton displayed their own calves. Like their father, Carrol Joe Heaton (Huntsville T&D Department), they have always raised calves for showing and selling. This year's sale brought them a total of \$2,215.70.

Vickie's calf, Billy Jack, weighed 871 pounds: Joe's calf, Roho, weighed 504 pounds. In addition to their fine showing, Joe was awarded a trophy for outstanding showman. Last year, his calf won the grand champion award. (from Karen Morley)



Cedric Blackwell (left), a recently retired Louisiana Station Production Department retiree, attended a retirement party in his honor. His gifts included a cake with a fisherman on top and a bass boat. (from Frank Jones)

Martha Ellen Glover, daughter of C. A. Glover - Gonzales superintendent, was married on May 18th at the First Baptist Church in Gonzales. Her husband is Donnie Elliot - Gonzales T&D Department. (from Frank Jones)



On the left is Harry Leicht (Beaumont Service Center supervisor - Relays and Communications Department) with his twin children, Becky, left, and Byron. The picture was taken in 1950. On the right is Harry; this time with his twin grandchildren, Charrisse, left, and Stephanie. This picture was recently taken, and the children (six months old) belong to Harry's son, Byron; and his wife, Heneretta. Twins sure seem to run in the family! (from Carolyn Motl)



Say hello to Christopher Edward Brewer, son of David and Becky Brewer. Christopher was born June 11 and weighed 10 lbs. 6 ozs! Father David is an engineering assistant in the Baton Rouge T&D Department. (from Susan Wilks)



# The Best From Beverly



Beverly O. Saunders is the new home service advisor in Lake Charles. She is a native of Lake Charles and a graduate of McNeese State University with a B.S. in Home Economics in Business. Her college honors include being selected Miss Log 1971 and McNeese Yearbook Queen.

At present, Beverly is a member of the Louisians Home Economics Association, the American Home Economics Association and Home Economists in Business.

She is married to Francis W. Saunders of Nassau, Bahamas, and they have one child. They attend St. Michael's and All Angels Episcopal Church in Lake Charles.

Her hobbies include sewing, tennis and jogging.

## BAKED OLIVE TIDBITS

1 lb. Yorkshire or sharp American cheese  
1 cup flour  
Pinch of salt  
60 smallest size stuffed olives

Put cheese through food chopper; then work in flour and salt with fingertips. Flatten thin a small amount of mixture in palm of hand and place one stuffed olive in center. Press cheese mixture firmly around olive. Place on greased cookie sheet and bake at 450 degrees 6 to 8 minutes, or until a golden brown. Makes 60 hot appetizers.

## OLIVE MUSHROOM MEAT LOAF

2 Tbsps. butter or margarine  
1 cup minced onion  
½ lb. mushrooms, diced  
½ tsp. salt  
1½ lbs. ground chuck  
½ lb. ground pork  
1 cup sliced stuffed olives  
2 cups soft bread crumbs (4 slices bread)  
2 eggs  
2 tsps. salt  
1/8 tsp. pepper

Melt butter in skillet on medium heat; add onion and cook 2 minutes, stirring frequently. Add mushrooms; sprinkle with ½ tsp. salt; cook 1 minute. Combine with chuck, pork, olives, bread crumbs, eggs, 2 tsps. salt and pepper in large bowl. Mix gently but thoroughly. Press mixture into 9 x 5 x 3 inch loaf pan. Bake at 375 degrees 1 hour. Serves 6 to 8.

## BAHAMIAN PEAS AND RICE

1 strip bacon, cut into 1 inch pieces  
1 small onion, finely chopped  
2 cups water  
1 cup long grain rice  
½ tsp. salt  
½ cup frozen crowder or pigeon peas  
1 Tbsp. tomato paste

In a saucepan, fry bacon crisp. Add onion and saute' until golden. Add water, rice and salt. Stir, then add peas and tomato paste. Stir, cover and bring to a boil on high heat; turn to low and cook 20 minutes, or until rice is tender. Serves 4.

## MEXICAN GREEN BEANS

1 medium tomato,  
peeled and cut into 4 wedges  
¼ small onion, quartered and sliced  
1/8 small green pepper,  
cleaned and cut into ½ inch squares  
1 Tbsp. cooking oil  
1 tsp. salt  
1/8 tsp. sugar  
Dash pepper  
One 10 oz. pkg. diagonal-cut green beans,  
partially defrosted and separated

Combine all ingredients except beans in blender jar. Blend until vegetables are finely chopped (40 to 60 seconds). Pour into blazer pan of super pan or covered saucepan. Heat to simmering on medium heat. Empty beans into sauce; mix. Cover tightly and cook slowly until beans are tender. Serves 6.

## GREEN RICE 'N CHEESE

1½ cups long grain rice  
2 cups canned chicken broth  
1 medium onion, minced  
½ cup chopped celery  
¼ cup chopped green pepper  
1 clove garlic, minced  
¼ lb. butter or margarine  
One 4 oz. can mushrooms, stems and pieces  
¼ cup grated American cheese  
¼ cup sharp Cheddar cheese  
1 tsp. Worcestershire sauce  
½ tsp. Tabasco pepper sauce  
Salt and pepper  
1 cup combined onion tops and parsley  
¾ cup slivered almonds

Cook rice according to directions on package, using chicken broth instead of water. Saute' onion, celery, pepper and garlic in butter until wilted. Stir in cooked rice, mushrooms, mushroom liquid, cheeses, Worcestershire sauce and Tabasco pepper sauce. Salt and pepper to taste. Add remaining ingredients. Place in a 2 quart covered casserole. Bake at 275 degrees 30 to 40 minutes. Serves 8.

## MELOMAKARONNA (Orange Honey Crescents)

1½ cups cooking oil  
6 Tbsps. frozen concentrated orange juice  
1/3 cup sugar  
1½ tsps. grated orange rind  
1 tsp. cinnamon  
¼ tsp. cloves  
¼ tsp. nutmeg  
¼ tsp. salt  
¾ tsp. baking soda  
3½ cups sifted flour  
¾ tsp. baking powder  
¾ cup chopped pecans  
¾ cup honey  
3 Tbsps. frozen concentrated orange juice  
½ cup finely chopped pecans

Combine oil, 6 Tbsps. concentrated orange juice, sugar and orange rind. Sift spices and dry ingredients; add to first mixture. Stir in ¾ cup chopped pecans. Chill dough. Shape into crescents and take at 350 degrees 15 to 18 minutes. Cool. Combine honey and 3 Tbsps. concentrated orange juice; drizzle over cookies; sprinkle with ½ cup finely chopped pecans. Makes 3½ dozen cookies. Delicious served with coffee.



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## Consumer Scene



### Abandoned Refrigerators — Tot Traps

An unused or abandoned refrigerator or freezer can be a serious—even fatal—hazard to children.

A child doesn't know a refrigerator is constructed airtight to preserve food. He climbs inside to play "hide and seek," or because he thinks he will escape summer's heat, and death from suffocation can come within 25 to 30 minutes.

Over the last five years, more than 80 children nationwide—most aged three to six—have died as a result of becoming entrapped in stored or abandoned refrigerators.

The problem is not confined just to old units sitting in the weeds in some vacant lot or junkyard. Even more accessible—and thus more likely to be fatal—are the ones in storage or limited use in garages and basements.

Modern refrigerators and freezers are designed to be pushed open from the inside with very little force being exerted. But the older models, and there are literally millions around, have doors that latch securely and cannot be opened from the inside.

It's obviously not just a case of telling kids to "stay away from that old refrigerator." The old appliances represent such tempting play areas—impregnable "forts" and great "jails" in which to lock up "outlaw" playmates.

What can be done about the ever-present problem of refrigerator entrapment?

Engineers at General Electric Company's Appliance Park in Louisville, Kentucky, point out that a few simple precautions are all that is really needed to keep an old refrigerator from becoming a deathtrap.

For one thing, it's against the law in many communities to discard an old refrigerator or freezer without first removing the door. It's against common sense in any community. And this means removing the door right away—not an hour or a week later. It only takes a few minutes for a child to climb in and suffocate.

If you plan to keep an old model, but not use it right away, you can remove the door, or tie a sturdy rope around it with the knot at the back and push the unit up against the wall. Even better is to get a chain and padlock from the hardware store. The man of the house can install this child-saving device for just a few dollars and a few minutes of his time.

Other ways to combat the problem—which is always at its peak during the summer months—include mobilizing civic groups to go in search of abandoned units and to remove their doors, or reporting to authorities anyone who keeps such hazards on property accessible to small children.

Children and old refrigerators—with a little effort they don't have to be a fatal combination.